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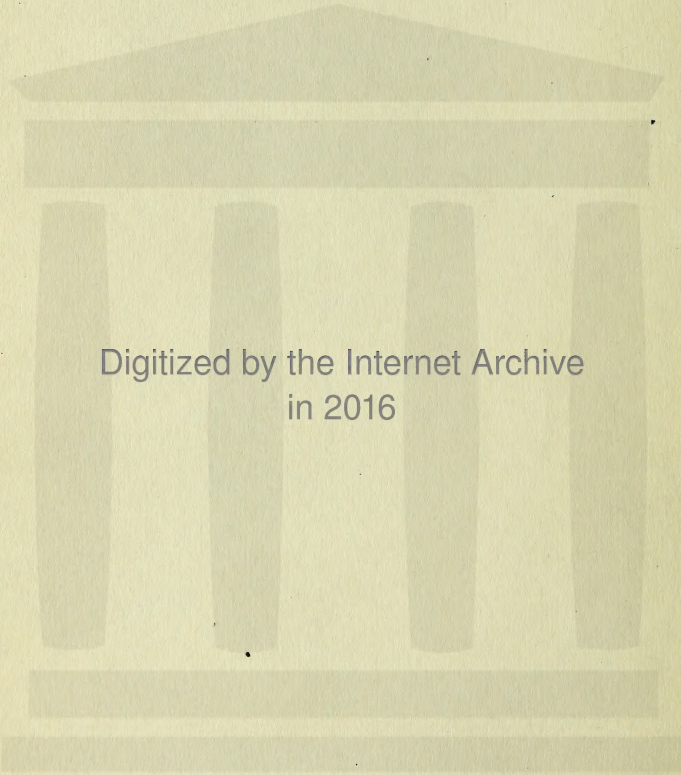
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MATERIAL CUSTOMS IN THE TERRITORY OF ILLINOIS

By
MARSHALL SMELSER

INTRODUCTION

Too often, purely local histories have dealt not so much with how the average pioneer ate, drank, slept, danced, dressed and amused himself, as with how the exceptional man or woman did those things. And even then they are often not concerned so much with how the latter did these things as with how he became exceptional, how he became such a huge landholder, how he became so consummately immoral, or how he garnered enough votes to become the outstanding official of the place recalled.

This account has for its purpose a summary of just how the average dweller in the time and place described lived, not in relation to his ruler of the period, but in relation to his ruler of all periods—his environment, and more than that, his physical environment. And because individuals can hardly have customs, (at the best they only have habits), this discussion will eliminate, as much as possible, those early citizens of Illinois whose names shine brightly because of political prowess, social eminence, or what not, and deal with an abstract pioneer, who is all the more concrete for that. The paper might be called: "Daily life of a forgotten pioneer."

The term *material customs* is capable of much more exact definition than are most terms used in historiography.

MATERIAL CUSTOMS IN ILLINOIS TERRITORY

By it is meant, first, the material life of the individual; and, second, the private life of the individual—private, in the sense that it looks from the individual to the group, and not vice versa. Material life denotes, briefly, food, stimulants, clothing, shelter. Private life is concerned with the employment of time in privacy, social ceremonies as a means to the occupation of the ill-adjusted leisure of those days, and amusements, which are not necessarily social but in this case are largely so.

The period is roughly that of the years of the Territory of Illinois: 1809-1818. However it has sometimes been necessary to go farther afield—chronologically speaking—than the strict limitation expressed above. In such cases the searcher has always looked for conditions of time and place that were identical, insofar as that is possible, in the culture of the Old Northwest.

As Harper said, "the American frontiersman faced outward when in contact with his physical environment, but faced inward in preserving his social and cultural relationships." It is chiefly with that outward-facing that this monograph is concerned, in its aim of presenting the material customs of the designated time and place; it is thus a static view.

THE TERRITORY OF ILLINOIS

From a schedule of the census of 1818, a list has been compiled of 6,020 residents of the Territory, who were nearly all heads of families. Of these, information as to birth-place and former places of residence has been collected concerning 716—approximately 12%. A generalization as to the origins of the people of the area can thus at the best only achieve probability.

Of these 716 (whites), 38% were from southern states, 37% from western states, 13% from middle states, 3% from

New England, and 9% were foreign born; of these latter fully two-thirds were from England. All told, 71% came from south of the Mason-Dixon line and the Ohio River. These figures cannot be but rough, very rough, approximations, since they do not total an exact 100. They do not include the scattered habitants of French descent.¹

Since this period represents the last grey shades of the twilight of the French *régime*, it may be valuable to repeat a brief summary of the French inhabitants of the period. "During the French regime these people consisted of two classes, the *habitants*, ignorant and improvident, engaged largely in the fur trade as *voyageurs*, and the *gentry* . . . many of whom had come from the better classes in France and Canada . . ." Disorderly conditions following on the British occupation caused most of the latter and many of the former to cross the Mississippi into Spanish territory. "It is doubtful if there were more than fifteen hundred people of French descent living in Illinois in 1818 and practically all of these belonged to the *habitant* class." They were mostly native Illinois, since there was practically no French immigration after 1760.²

"It would probably be a safe generalization, therefore to say that two-thirds belonged to southern stock," while those with middle states or New England antecedents were only a few more than the foreigners.³

The population in 1800 was 2,458. In 1810 it was 12,282. By 1815 it was 15,000; by mid-summer of 1818, 35,000; and by the end of that year almost, if not quite, 40,000. Buck says that about 54% had made one or two moves before coming to Illinois. "The Illinois of 1818 was, then, a very new community. Less than half the inhabitants had lived

¹Solon J. Buck, *Illinois in 1818*, pp. 93-94.

²Buck, *op. cit.*, 18.

³*Ibid.*, 95.

there three years, and not quite a third had been there as long as ten years."⁴

Those Illinoisans were a mixed lot: southerners, Illinois-born Frenchmen, New Englanders, foreigners, and men from the middle states. While there was a clear majority of southern stock, it must be realized, as Buck is careful to point out, that the "south" of that time supported a very heterogeneous people.

However, this motley crowd had this much in common: Illinois, or rather, the southern point of Illinois, the "American Bottoms," "Egyptian Illinois." It was a region entirely capable of supporting life—even in luxury; we know that, but at that time it offered a tremendous problem, or infinite series of problems, in the translation of its latent productiveness into the daily necessities of the newcomer.

The varied solutions to that problem, or those problems, occupy the rest of the discussion.

FOOD

When it is realized that ninety-nine of every hundred Illinoisans of that day were farmers, and that commerce with non-agricultural sections of the nation—which were exceedingly difficult to find at that time—was negligible, it is plain that the inhabitants raised food not mainly to sell, but to consume. This fact was brought home abruptly to newcomers who arrived too late to put in crops of their own, and paid profiteers' prices for their provisions. Corn at a dollar per bushel was reported in 1818, and corn-meal at double that price⁵ with little of raw or manufactured product to be gotten.

The very earliest fare of the newcomer in the more sparsely settled regions consisted of bread, made from corn

⁴*Ibid.*, 93.

⁵Buck, 130.

tilled himself, and game, which was plentiful. However, after settling himself, it is seen that the resident of the but recently occupied sectors offered cows, hogs and sheep for sale, indicating a later surplus, so far as the family group was concerned. The typical domestic menus, as the pioneer became less a professional hunter and more a farmer, contained corn-bread, bacon, bear, deer, turkey and miscellaneous domestic and wild meats, as well as fish.

The early settlers relied largely for semi-luxuries upon materials manufactured directly from the wilderness without cultivation. While sugar was not a regular and customary food, as such, in the region, before New Orleans sugar was distributed, the settlers often manufactured their own maple sugar. Reynolds also claimed that they made 'molases'⁶ which would indicate the culture of sorghum, grown in those latitudes today. Nuts and berries of many kinds were there for the taking. Salt was manufactured at the various salt springs, under federal contract, and sold for prices from eighty cents to a dollar a bushel.

As the various communities became more thickly settled, stores were opened, both to distribute manufactured products and imports to the farmers, and to trade locally-grown produce to the few townspeople. Thus we find that the Menards chiefly dealt in whiskey, sugar and coffee, but sold much lard, tea, corn, pork and hams, as well as many less important items⁷. Flour was traded in to some extent, and became a staple item of trade in Shawneetown almost immediately after this period.

Beside the hunter-pioneers for whom the previously mentioned items were largely intended, there came the younger, better-educated professional men, who came not so much to acquire status as to improve a status which heretofore had

⁶John Reynolds, *Pioneer history of Illinois* (1852), 332.

⁷John Moses, *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*, I, 240-41.

been not inconsiderable. Many of them married into what remained of the French gentry. For this class the stores advertised choicer wines, liquors and groceries.

A circuit-riding clergyman described typical meals served to him (which probably were better than average) as consisting of corn-cakes, fried bacon, sometimes butter, with milk, herb tea, or some substitute for coffee. One such traveler while riding through fairly populous territory developed a fancy for some coffee. All his inquiries were met with directions to a woman famous for owning some of the precious stuff, who searched very carefully and found enough grounds in the bottom of a chest for two cups full.⁸

The wife of one of the earlier clergymen of Carlinville wrote to a friend that "our bill of fare that winter was corn-bread and venison, with some sugar and coffee that we had brought with us. The flour we had brought had been used before we moved into the new house. As for butter, milk, or vegetables, we had none, and fruit was not seen in the place for years after we came."⁹

It wasn't always so simple to get even this meager fare. Flower, one of the leaders of the English settlement in Edwards County, wrote: "My own family, one day, were so close run for provisions [through entertaining casual travelers] that a dish of the tenderest buds and shoots of the hazle was our only resort."¹⁰ And Flower was comparatively well-to-do.

Preparation and service of food were just as primitive. Utensils were mainly of wood, pewter and iron, with some great copper kettles to be found. Spoons and dishes were

⁸Buck, *op. cit.*, 178.

⁹Turnbull, "A Century of Methodism in Carlinville;" *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, July, 1931, 251. The period is later but local conditions were about the same as those within the limits assigned this survey.

¹⁰Buck, *op. cit.*, 110.

usually of wood and pewter, while knives and forks were of iron. Practically all the cooking was done over open fireplaces, which were dominant features of all the dwellings, since they supplied heat for cooking, heat for protection and light at night. Types of cooking done here ranged from broiling fresh game, to smoking and drying venison for future use.

Corn, for bread, was broken in a mortar and ground in a grater. Some went as far as fifty miles for grist—and sometimes waited days for their turn to be served—and then only secured a few bushels of meal. "The bread was baked on 'jonny' or journey boards, which gave it the name of jonny-cake. The boards were smooth, two feet long and eight inches wide. The dough was spread out on the boards, which were then placed before the fire; after one side was baked, the dough was turned and baked on the other." This was typical of the expedients resorted to in the solution of the problems that such wild isolation produced.¹¹ As typical of the limitations of space within which these cooks worked, the clergyman previously quoted remarked that it was very often necessary to clear the sleepers from the floor in order to commence preparations for breakfast.

Tobacco was here—as everywhere—in great use.

When it came to drinking, to quench thirst, to refresh, or simply for alcoholic effect, the pioneer—considering his needs—had a wider choice than he did in food.

Tea and coffee were rare except on great occasions, but there were many substitutes. The *habitants* drank, according to their means, the lighter wines, particularly claret, taffia (Monongahela whiskey), or a locally made product called *noyau*,¹² the latter two of considerable alcoholic con-

¹¹Moses, II, 231-33.

¹²Reynolds, 229, 265.

tent. Wine, of a sort not specified, was the universal prescription for convalescents.

But whiskey was the universal solvent of the Territory, "and from the earliest settlement of the country there were not wanting distilleries for the manufacture of whiskey, to minister to the thirsty people, who claimed that they could not keep warm in winter or cool in summer, or perform their hard work without fainting, unless they could be assisted by the free use of the 'good creature.' But there were no breweries to be found, unless among the few Germans."¹³

This latter shortage was soon remedied and beer was advertised for sale in Shawneetown in 1823.¹⁴

The consumption of whiskey was not limited by age, sex, or class. At harvest time, for example, it "was partaken of by all—each one, male and female, drinking from the bottle and passing it to his or her next neighbor. Drinking vessels were dispensed with as needless superfluities."¹⁵ This universal consumption was, of course, not due to the scarcity of milder tipples, but due to the very human reason that they liked it best. As early as 1795 a Cincinnati firm had offered, besides whiskey, brandy, imported gin, Lisbon and Madeira wines, coffee and Bohea tea. Another sold "excellent bitters." Other Ohio dealers, in an age earlier than the one considered here, had offered port, claret, "cordials of Martinique," and one enterpriser had sold seven differently flavored cordials.¹⁶ If these exotic waters were to be found in Ohio at that early date they must surely have been available to the iron-throated Illinoisans of the period 1809-1818, yet Kentucky and Monongahela whiskies continued to be—perhaps even more than water—the favorite liquid.

¹³Buck, 133.

¹⁴Pease, *The Frontier State*, 1818-1848, p. 7.

¹⁵Moses, II, 232.

¹⁶B. W. Bond, *The Civilization of the Old Northwest*, p. 203.

That it was even then becoming a social problem is evidenced by the fact that Governor Ninian Edwards, by executive order, forbade the sale of intoxicating liquors to the Indians of the Peoria sector.

Perhaps earlier commentators—as intimated in the introduction—were too prone to record the unusual rather than the commonplace, but it seems to be accurate to describe the fore-runners of the present people of Illinois (they cannot be called ‘ancestors’ except in a very few instances) as men and women who lived largely on a diet of broiled meats and corn in both solid and liquid form: “hardy pioneers” is no misnomer.

CLOTHES AND PERSONAL ADORNMENT

Obviously the members of that first wave of immigration—the hunters and adventurers—had no time to frivol away in dressing as a pastime. Clothing to them was a howling necessity and the sooner conceived and worn, the better. These first ones took the easiest course, since they had more important things to do, and dressed in the animals’ clothes. Their costumes were ordinarily made of the skins of deer, wolf and fox, with buffalo and elk hide for foot covering. Deer skins for this purpose were dressed by scraping and smoking them, or if time permitted were tanned, by soaking them in water mixed with ground oak bark.

With the later comers, clothing became a bit more hygienic, and cooler in hot weather. Flax was raised for the making of linen, although not much is heard of that industry, and Flagg said: “Cotton is raised sufficient for domestic use. A very small piece of ground produces enough for a family.”¹⁷ As has been seen, sheep appeared very early. These clothes of skins, wool, flax and cotton were usually

¹⁷Gershon Flagg, “Pioneer Letters;” Ed. with intro. and notes by Solon J. Buck, *Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 1910, 139-183.

MATERIAL CUSTOMS IN ILLINOIS TERRITORY

made in their entirety by the women (who were also cooks, laundresses, nurses, gardeners, soap-makers, etc., etc.).

Ford describes the economy of clothing very well. "The farmer's sheep furnished wool for his winter clothing; he raised cotton and flax for his summer clothing. His wife and daughters spun, wove, and made it into garments. A little copperas and indigo, with the bark of trees, furnished dye stuffs for coloring. The fur of the raccoon, made him a hat or a cap. The skins of deer or of his cattle, tanned at a neighboring tanyard, or dressed by himself, made him shoes or moccasins. Boots were rarely seen, even in the towns."¹⁸ Butternut was also used as a dye.

As it was with food so with clothing; soon the growth of the towns brought about a division of labor, for the townsman had neither room enough nor time enough to produce his own clothing, and it became on demand procurable at the few stores. Flagg stated with pardonable exaggeration: "Dry goods are getting very cheap, the country is full of them; we have more merchants than anything else."¹⁹ Edward Cowles advertised January 1, 1818, in the *Intelligencer*, that he had fine and coarse broadcloths, cassimeres, coatings, flannels, hosings, silk shawls, cotton shawls, handkerchiefs, cambrics, fancy muslins, lace, British cottons, domestic, linens, stripes, plaids and plains, saddles, bridles, hats, ladies' and gentlemen's shoes. He would accept in return, wheat, pork, butter, furs, peltries.²⁰ So much for the materials of dress.

The completed costumes were so varied as to make any assemblage on the Illinois frontier a colorful one.

The *habitants*, in particular, were uniquely dressed. No Frenchman wore hat, cap or coat as they are known now.

¹⁸Thomas Ford, *A History of Illinois*, p. 41. Governor Ford's Chapter I is in part a primary source for this work, since it contains much that he observed.

¹⁹Flagg, 162.

²⁰Buck, 144.

His head was covered with a Madras cotton handkerchief worn so as to resemble a night-cap of Governor Ford's day. For upper covering of the body he wore a garment made of a blanket, called a *capot* with cap attached, something like the head-gear of a Capuchin friar, and to this added leather moccasins and leggings. The cap or hood was omnipresent.²¹

Elias Fordham is a well-known figure in the literature of the period. "He," according to Colyer, "went about garbed much like an Indian, wearing a blanket and carrying a tomahawk in his belt." "Every hunter (and all the men were hunters) carried his knife in his girdle, while not infrequently the rest of the family had but one or two between them."²² Enough clothing could be purchased for a hundred dollars (cash) to last a farm laborer two years, and a backwoodsman could be outfitted for the same period for half that, although neither farmer nor hunter was likely to buy all his clothes.

Footwear presented a problem to these people. Flagg wrote home that "Boots and Shoes sell the highest here of any place I was ever in. . . ."²³ Shoes were often confined, except in cold weather, to adult females, unless at some public assembly. Frequently shoes were carried to the church door and then put on before entry.

Men's hats in summer were made of wheat straw, woven and sewed by women. Their winter hats, if not of fur, were of wool, probably purchased in Shawneetown. Women's clothes were generally made by themselves, except in the older villages, and while bonnets were occasionally purchased from the store, they were usually home-made, kept in place either by paste-board, or wooden, ribs.

²¹Buck (quoting Mason's narrative), 89; Ford, 36.

²²Colyer, "The Fordhams and La Serres of the English Settlement," *Transactions of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 1911; Reynolds, *op. cit.*, 228.

²³Flagg, 162.

Flagg gives a good idea of the strenuous life to which clothing had to be adapted. "They have no pasture but turn everything out to run at large and when they want to use a horse or oxen they will have to travel half a dozen miles to find them through grass and weeds higher than a man can reach when on horse back and the grass and vines are so rough that nothing but their leather hunting shirts and trowsers [*sic*] will stand any chance at all."²⁴

Costume reached its climax at the wedding. Fletcher describes a wedding dress.²⁵ The gown was of blue and white calico. There were four widths to the skirt, the two front ones being gored. The waist was very short and fastened behind with a draw-string. The sleeves were immense, tapering from shoulder to wrist, and thickly padded with feathers to keep their shape. (Calico cost forty cents a yard.) The groom dismissed his problem by wearing new butternut jeans and a pleated shirt.

Ornament and personal adornment on this frontier were very simple. Hunting shirts were ornamented with fringe, which was about the extent of decoration used by the males. Women went little farther. In 1819, John Grant, of Carmi, offered for sale, gloves, insertion trimmings, ribbons, silk handkerchiefs, etc. "Jewelry on the pioneer ladies was very uncommon. A gold ring was an ornament not often seen."²⁶ The bride previously described also wore a cluster of wild crab-apple blossoms.

Here, in the short span of, at the most, two decades, human clothing ran the gamut of the outside world, from primitive fur garments designed solely to protect against underbrush and the cold, to ribbons and 'insertion trimmings.' However, to few of these people were clothes a

²⁴Flagg, 162.

²⁵Fletcher, "Old Settler Tales: Comfort's Wedding;" *Proceedings of the Illinois State Historical Society*, 1916, 100-104.

²⁶Reynolds, *My Own Times* (Belleville, 1855), 71.

matter of decorative scheme; they wore clothes because they had to in winter, and because their morality demanded it in summer.

DWELLINGS AND FURNITURE

Too much has been written concerning the dwellings of the frontier to devote as much space here to them as the material available would apparently justify. Since the first man built his lean-to, housing has had an incurable fascination for men, and the result has been a great flood of literature upon the subject, with the further result that nearly everyone is acquainted with the elements of frontier dwellings.

The first shelter of the newcomer to Illinois was a tent or rude lean-to. Later his neighbors, if he had any, assisted in raising his house and fencing his land. This cabin would be made entirely of wood without glass, nails, hinges or locks. Usually the settler made his own bedsteads, chairs, stools, cupboards, tables (and ploughs and harness). Such a house cost only the labor of building; all materials were found at the spot. For something more luxurious, it was possible to recreate to a certain extent the 'back-home' atmosphere, and build a much more comfortable dwelling with more conveniences for — as Birkbeck's cost — twenty dollars. Most of the cabins had field-stone chimneys, or else chimneys of mud, but in 1798, at the French cantonment below Massac, locally made bricks were used.²⁷

The roofs were made with weight poles to keep the boards or 'shakes' down, and Reynolds recorded an anecdote of an Indian attack on a lonely cabin which was repulsed by an 'attakee' who clambered into the loft and pushed the roof off onto the savages who were battering at

²⁷Moyers, "A Story of Southern Illinois;" *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, April, 1931, p. 82.

the door. For all that mobility Flower wrote to England of his roof that "it stands the most drenching rains and drifting snows without letting in any wet."

These crude dwellings of course had no plumbing, but wooden pipes were not unknown, they being used in the manufacture of salt at the United States Saline. They were made of cypress and gum.

Log houses were no longer erected at the English settlement, Albion, after 1818. This was probably due to Flower's opinion of them, for he referred to them as "Log houses . . . the receptacles of the insect tribe. . . ." Indeed, the first brick house in Madison County, as reported by Reynolds, was built in 1809. The abandonment of logs as building material was increasingly noticeable after 1818. As Pease says: "In the towns, when the state was young, the rising brick and frame houses contrasted sharply with the log cabins of the territorial days. . . ." ²⁸ Of course as the frontier moved northward in the succeeding years, the conditions were repeated over and over again.

The dwellings of the *habitants* differed in several respects from those of the later-comers. They were mostly built of hewn timber set vertically, rather than horizontally. The intervals between the uprights were filled with mortar or stone. They had low roofs, of different slopes, from the comb in the center, to the lowest portion, the porch, or porches. Of these latter there were one, two, three, or four completely surrounding the house, on each building. At Prairie du Rocher there were houses built of bark, of puncheons, and of slabs. Their windows were without sashes but in many cases were glazed with small pieces of broken glass, ingeniously cemented together with paper. In the usual French settlement, the houses were surrounded by orchards, composed of apple, pear, cherry and peach

²⁸Pease, *op. cit.*, 8.

trees. Each private enclosure, so said Ford, contained a house and garden, on what would be to us a whole block.

One of the most pretentious establishments, that of Flower in Edwards County, had several cabins for his workmen, a farmyard one hundred feet square enclosed by log buildings, and a two-story house of considerable size.

But the typical house was sixteen feet square, consisting of but the one room, with one side consisting almost entirely of fire-place.

In this one room, about one-fourth of the space was taken up by the loom, and there were other clothes-making devices. The room was further crowded with beds, generally provided with feather ticks, but many times merely with fodder, chaff, shucks and straw. Sometimes the only alleviation to weary bones was a pile of deer skins. For that matter these hardy folk quite frequently had no beds at all, but slept on the bare floor. Usually, however, there were beds, of a sort. Often they were made with two sides built into a corner of the room, with the free corner possessing the only leg. Animal skins, and, later, quilts, furnished covering at night. The bedding, if any, was laid upon 'shakes,' such as were used in roofing, or, more infrequently, upon cords.

Other furniture was equally rude. "If a family chanced to have a few pewter dishes and spoons, knives and forks, tincups and platters, it was in advance of the neighbors."²⁹ Deer suet and bear grease were used for illumination. With the cooking utensils mentioned previously, and a minimum of crude, home-made stools, chairs and tables, that was about the extent of the furniture. Flower had a mirror and, for that period, many books, and Birkbeck had brought his piano from England, by way of Norfolk, Baltimore and

²⁹Reynolds, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, 228.

Pittsburgh, in which journey it had been hauled 240 miles over the mountains. Advertisements in the newspapers of the region show that there were clock- and watch-makers there at the time. But mirrors, books, pianos, watches and clocks were oddities.

EMPLOYMENT OF TIME

By 'employment of time' is not meant the employment of time in the pursuit of a living—which was often a wild chase then—nor time spent in social ceremonies and in amusements. Employment for material gain is altogether outside the province of this discussion, and the other two possible alternatives will be discussed later under their own headings. This section will be concerned with occupations of private life, some in strictest privacy and some entirely within the family, which are incidental to living, and which automatically fall under the heading, 'material customs,' 'founded on the nature of the conditions and the manifestation of activity.'

First of all the toilet. These early Illinoisans did not have much time to devote to this, nor an inclination to do so, nor did they have much material. Bear's oil and home-made soap, manufactured from that same bear's oil and deer suet, were just about the sum of their cosmetics. Personal cleanliness was not regarded in the way it is today.

Fordham wrote: "I change my shirt, when it is convenient, twice a week, and sometimes take off my clothes when I go to bed. My hands, though rougher by far, are not quite so dark as an Indian's. . . ." But he seemed to thrive on this unhygienic regimen, for he closed the paragraph, adding ". . . and moreover I am grown very stout."³⁰

As soon as the towns grew there were more luxurious supplies for the toilet, and apothecaries, in 'medicine

³⁰Colyer, *op. cit.*, 45 (quoting Fordham).

stores' sold toothbrushes, lotions for face and skin and "damask" lip salve.³¹

They did try to protect themselves, but, knowing little of the cures, and, it seems, practically nothing of the causes of disease, some of their attempts were rather ludicrous. In these same 'medicine stores' salnitre, salts, toothache drops, and stocks of surgical supplies and instruments were sold.³² And there were great hosts of patented medicines, even as today, many itinerant (and frequently unqualified) "tooth doctors," and a veritable fog of medical quacks.

That the climate did not take greater toll of these men who pushed the forest down—considering the shelter they had from it—is surprising. The following is typical, it seems, of what many had to survive.

"The winter was unusually cold and the snow that fell in quantities drifted in upon us, often covering everything and deadening the coals in the fireplace. It was nothing strange in the mornings to waken and find that nature had provided our bed with a beautiful white covering of snow, more beautiful, however, to the sight than to the touch. Sometimes when the wind came from the east the room would soon be filled with smoke. When I could bear it no longer the door would be thrown open, the burning sticks be pitched out of doors upon the snow, and the room allowed to clear of smoke. Soon the stinging cold would drive us to gather up the blackened chunks and seek to rekindle the fire. I used to wrap our little boy in a shawl and sit for hours by the fire to keep him comfortable. It was a great deal the first winter to do the necessary work for the family, our great effort being to get warm, for I can't remember ever being really warm the winter through, except when at one of the neighbors."³³

³¹Bond, *op. cit.*, 417.

³²*Ibid.*

³³Turnbull, *op. cit.*, 251.

Taking 'care of the person' under such conditions, with inadequate shelter, insanitary clothing, ill-balanced and sometimes infrequent meals, was bound to be a difficult task. And the results were plainly seen by some travelers. Schoolcraft, writing of southern Illinois, was one. "Having witnessed a number of persons with pale and sickly countenances, we inquired of the innkeeper, the state of general health in this part of the country. He replied, that he had lived a number of years on his present plantation during which himself and family had been remarkably fortunate as to health—that there were, every year, some cases of bilious and intermittent fevers in the neighborhood, but they were seldom alarming, and he thought the country might be pronounced eminently healthful. It was no confirmation of this latter conclusion, when we afterward learned from him, that he had just risen from a fever of four weeks continuance, and that his wife then lay ill of the same complaint."³⁴

A common disease of the time was the mysterious "milk-sick" which, they claimed, was induced by drinking the milk, eating the butter, or eating the meat of a poisoned animal. The poison was thought to be some mineral substance, which rose in gaseous form and infused the vegetation. It was "generally fatal."

Another prevalent disease of that day, and one to which newcomers seemed to be especially liable was what was called "fever and ague," probably malaria, and which was thought to be caused by the gases arising from decaying vegetable matter in the early fall. It was not, apparently, "generally fatal," and usually yielded to their then universal remedies of tartar emetic, calomel and jalap, and Peruvian bark. This was not at all an unwise prescription for malaria. Bond says that in the whole Northwest

³⁴Schoolcraft, *Travels in the Central Portions of the Mississippi Valley*; (New York, 1825), 204.

Territory ague and rheumatic complaints abounded "where sanitation and hygienic principles in general were so commonly disregarded."³⁵ People became used to it however, and governed their actions so as to avoid particularly dangerous activities at the requisite times. Flagg remarked: "I intended to have proceeded on my journey in April or May but I could get no one to accompany me and people who had been in this country told me that I ought not to come into it in the Spring if I did they said I should be liable to get sick."³⁶ Furthermore, they seemed to get around a large share of their troubles by not paying too much attention to them. Buck records the tale of a traveler, a missionary, who was ill with the measles for two weeks without knowing it, and when he had diagnosed his case, continued his journey, paying his respects to the scourge only by watching his diet a little more carefully.

A great controversy raged late in this period between Flower and Birkbeck, the promoters of the English colony in Edwards County, and various opponents, who claimed that the climate was too harsh for human survival. In a measure the latter were correct, for the death-rate for the period, while practically impossible to state accurately, was abominably high, but they failed to allow for what they could hardly have foreseen: the increase of knowledge of the factors in the establishment and maintenance of public health, which, within a century, have made the region as habitable as most places on the globe. In this controversy Flower said, ". . . I must pronounce this [near Albion] to be as healthy a situation as any America affords. . . ."³⁷ Later he recounted how a whole group, composed of at least eleven, were ill at one time with the 'ague,' and were nursed by his wife. He doesn't mention medical aid as we

³⁵Bond, 417.

³⁶Flagg, 154.

³⁷Flower, *Letters from Lexington and Illinois*; (1819). In Thwaites, *Early Western Travels*, X, 90-169, p. 100.

know it.³⁸ In summation the statement of Schoolcraft can be taken as fairly unbiased. "On the salubrity of this part of the country, we cannot draw very favorable conclusions. In most of the houses where we have stopped, the appearance of the inhabitants has been pale and pining."³⁹

The remedies used against these various plagues were the ones common to all folk-medicine—if that term is allowed—in North America: balm, horehound, pennyroyal, fennel, coriander, peppermint, spearmint, snake-root, gentian, ginseng, Columbia-root, sumach, and sassafrass. Of course there must have been others, peculiar to certain localities. Many of the above are still used, both professionally and by 'amateurs.'

As regards professional attendance, Moses listed eight physicians in the Territory in this period, but neglected to say whether that was the total. To show the status of the practice of medicine at the time, it seems enough to state that Ninian Edwards, first Governor of the Territory, was an avowed amateur physician who is reported to have had a wide practice, without pay, "and it was not unusual for persons to come several hundred miles to consult him. . . ."⁴⁰ Physick must be in a bad way when people go to their lawyer to be cured of the ague.

The most important part of meals as material customs, their composition, has already been discussed. Other than that perhaps the most interesting feature was the "servant problem." As Flower said: "It has been reported that we can get no servants: this is true in a degree, because the price is such as soon to elevate the servant to a state of independence. . . ." This was certain to be the case, with such magnificently fertile land going for little or nothing. Many writers

³⁸Buck, 161.

³⁹Schoolcraft, *op. cit.*, 208.

⁴⁰N. W. Edwards, *History of Illinois from 1778 to 1833 and Life and Times of Ninian Edwards*, 242.

of that time agree emphatically that servants were a problem. They were more, however, than an economic problem; they were also a social problem. The vaunted individualism of the frontier shows here most plainly. Servants regarded themselves as certainly equal in every respect to their employers. Flower related how one even demanded the privilege of dining with the family. He claimed to have broken down this attitude by treating her with exaggerated, deferential courtesy, which soon revealed to the girl how false her position was. It is to be doubted if this had any permanent effect. Frontiers-people were prone to self-dependence.

A note here on service ware would not be out of place. "Wooden vessels, either dug out, or coopered, and called 'noggins' were in common use for bowls, out of which each member of the family ate mush and milk for supper. A gourd formed the drinking cup."

Thus crudely was life lived in private, sleeping for days on end in their clothes, using bear's oil for soap, dining without regard to precedence, slapping at the sanguiniphagous mosquito as a mere irritant rather than the bearer of their most malignant enemy. Was it any wonder that when any social affair came along, that they super-charged it with almost raw alcohol? Daily life wasn't much fun, and few of them had any reason to believe that fun wasn't the chief end of life.

SOCIAL CEREMONIES AND ETIQUETTE

Social ceremonies were scarce in the Territory, as we know them now. But the lives of the inhabitants were overflowing with events that had a ceremonious importance to them. One of the chief social ceremonies of today centers around dining, and how they did that—as unceremoniously as possible, with one exception to be noted hereafter—has

already been shown. But they substituted other events for those celebrated now, and the chief object of their attentions was the marriage. Today this ceremony is semi-private, as often as not, but then it was not so. Funerals, too, they had, but made little of them, and had festivals of a sort not so intimately connected with life and death, to be mentioned later.

It must be supposed that since death was apt to be so often unexpected with them and so remindful of what might any day be their own fate, without much warning, that it subdued them and they felt indisposed to make any to-do about it. Woods remarked that "the Americans most commonly bury their dead near the place where they die, and erect a small pale fence round the grave, to prevent its being disturbed. I believe it is seldom that they have any service read over them, except the Methodists, who have prayers at their funerals."⁴¹ Some of Woods' British compatriots were buried according to the (low) Anglican service. The general tendency is summed up by Pease, who refers to ". . . the absence of ceremony at baptism or funeral."

But marriage was another thing. Great ado was made of that and the whole neighborhood usually joined in, as though it were a civic festival, which seems no bad idea from the point of view of those secularizers who would govern such things entirely by social control, since there was no shortages of witnesses.

Flower described the necessary routine in the settlements, after the law had caught up with the immigrants. "There is an opinion prevailing amongst many in England that the marriage ceremony in America is considered lightly of, and but loosely performed; but there never was a greater mistake. A minor cannot marry without the consent of his or her guardian or parent. A license must be applied for at the

⁴¹Woods, *op. cit.*, 319.

county court, and a declaration accompanying it from the parent that it is with *his* consent. This license is taken to a magistrate who performs the ceremony, that is, the legal part of it, at either his own house or that of the parties; which is simply asking if they are willing to become man and wife, and their answer of consent. This is registered at the magistrate's and recorded by him at the county court: if either neglect to make this register, a heavy fine is the punishment of their negligence, and the marriage is considered illegal." This marriage was usually followed by a religious ceremony, he said.⁴² However, this seems to have been the practice laid down by the law after statehood had been achieved by the Territory, and in any case Mr. Flower's wishes sired too many of his thoughts. Fletcher describes a rural wedding, with no mention of legal forms, which was probably the typical one, considering the other customs studied thus far.⁴³ There were twenty guests who came from within a radius of thirty miles. Those who came only ten or fifteen miles returned home afterward; those from farther away stayed the night. The ceremony was held at three in the afternoon; guests had been arriving since noon, dressed in homespun. The minister had come thirty miles. Everybody dined first. The actual wedding was very informal, since the creek had risen and the minister, who had come late and was held up on the opposite bank, had to shout his service across the water, to a bride and groom who sat on horseback, half-way out into the channel, while the witnesses stood barefooted in the muddy water beside them. The fee was paid in maple sugar in the following spring.

Marriage was the inevitable state of women in a country

⁴²Flower, 131-132.

⁴³In this connection I wish to make it clear that by classifying marriage among the "material customs" of this particular locale, I do not intend, by any means to imply a materialist conception of marriage. I include it here as simply a social event which can be studied objectively, and is here studied that way, and that way only.

where they were so outnumbered. Flower considered that part of his servant problem was due to the frequency with which girls eligible for serving him chose matrimony instead. It is to their credit that they didn't think too thoroughly of the material advantages accruing to the single life. "Every log cabin," said Fordham, "is swarming with half-naked children. Boys of 18 build huts, marry and raise hogs and children at about the same expense."⁴⁴ Contraception seems to have been unknown to them.

Weddings were the scene of sports. These were what would be expected of a civilization which had practically no equipment for games except horses, whisky, muscles, fists and guns. Racing, both on horse and foot, drinking, storytelling, wrestling, feats of strength and endurance, fighting, and marksmanship were the customary practices. Running for the bottle, on horse-back, a mile or more, was probably the most spectacular event, and the winners were awarded a bottle full of the omnipresent corn-likker, with much pomp and circumstance.

Other festivals were all connected with the business of earning a living, it seems, except the annual celebrations on the Fourth of July—featured by the same sports plus a more or less formal dinner—and the Christmas tradition brought over from England into the English colony. Other than these, husking frolics, reaping frolics, barn- and house-raising and warmings, quilting-bees, and the like—all mixed with whisky, and usually ending in a dance to the music of a fiddle—were the sole 'festivals' in the American Bottoms.

There were some exceptions. Woods recorded that on October 2, 1820, there was a game of cricket played at Wanborough by the younger men of the settlement, who called it 'keeping Catherine Hill fair,' with many of the players being from the neighborhood of Godalming, Guild-

⁴⁴In Colyer, 45.

ford, etc. (Catherine Hill fair was — and is perhaps? — a large pleasure fair near Guildford, Surrey.) This had evidently become a tradition and possibly it had been played annually for several years, which would bring it back into territorial days.

Etiquette and manners in general seem, to the casual observer, to have been in a parlous state on the frontier, but Hall laid the blame for the stories of the “ferocity of western men” upon the rivermen. “. . . The character for brutal violence and audacious blasphemy, has been affixed to the people of this region, chiefly through the means of the boatmen and desperadoes, who formerly infested our rivers, and kept the inhabitants of their shores in constant terror.” However the introduction of steam as a motive power made unnecessary the tremendous manpower previously needed to operate the river vessels and abated the nuisance considerably. “The commanders of steamboats are men of character; property to an immense amount is entrusted to their care; their responsibility is great; and they are careful of their own deportment, and of the conduct of these under their control . . . while the increase of population has enabled the towns to enforce the regulations of their police.”⁴⁵ Hall was not a lonely commentator, either; everybody had river-men trouble, for sometimes they tried to emulate Attila.

Flower, incurable optimist, mentioned “. . . a Sunday afternoon; a day when all persons have leisure to read, and are clean in their dress and person,” but all other annalists unite against him. Sunday was the day of “rest” all right, but a large number had no inclination to read and were not particular about their cleanliness. “The towns were disorderly places at best, a Shawneetown Sunday being a by-

⁴⁵Hall, *Sketches of History, Life and Manners, in the West*; (St. Louis, 1835), 71-73.

MATERIAL CUSTOMS IN ILLINOIS TERRITORY

word . . ." because "for years the riot and license of a Shawneetown Sabbath was a shocking thing to a prim New England bride."⁴⁶ In a lesser degree nearly all the settlements gave up work on a Sunday and went in for laborious fun-making, mixed with alcohol, which culminated in veritable massacre. It was a prime missionary country. The unusual thing about their violent behavior was that it had a philosophy behind it. It was their notion of excessive independence that brought them into such frequent combat, ending so often in chewed-off ears, bitten-off noses, and gouged-out eyes.

But the picture must not be painted worse than it was. The root of the trouble with their manners was the immoderate use of the 'good creature,' whisky. When sober they were a quite different lot. Flower, for once supported by a critical historian, referred to backwoodsmen as "all this class of men, who live in solitude and commune so much with nature, relying on their own efforts to support themselves and their families . . ." and said that they were "calm, deliberate and self-possessed whenever they are sober. The best breeding in society could not impart to them more self-possession or give them greater ease of manner, or more dignified and courteous bearing."⁴⁷ And Pease supports Flower when he says that the liberty and equality text imparted a conviction of his dignity to the Illinoisan, and that he had no self-conscious rusticity such as his European counterparts would have had. Money could not buy his obsequious service, but genuine need could have liberal assistance for the asking. But "if he was hired as a servant little good could be expected from him."⁴⁸ And once on the outside of a quart of Monongahela he was a species of lion

⁴⁶Pease, 8, 23.

⁴⁷In Buck, 99.

⁴⁸Pease, 17-18.

with delusions of grandeur and courage to attempt the proof.

So far as the basis for social classification depends upon the unequal division of wealth, a means existed for it. In Shawneetown at the time, there were one brick house and several frame houses, and the rest, of logs, afforded a sharp contrast with these. The advertisements in the stores and newspapers of the period show the presence of silks, satins, broadcloths, muslins, cambrics, silk gloves, etc., and of fine groceries and wines. Although political aspirants kept these things in the background—and perhaps that is why they are not usually mentioned—the society of afternoon teas, great dinners, lived side by side with the remarkably primitive etiquette previously discussed. But here again, like Birkbeck's piano, these latter were novelties and not to be described in the same ink as customs.⁴⁹

Once more the *habitants* deserve special notice. Governor Ford said that the roughest *habitant* had perfect manners when he chose to use them (but was the Governor a critic? He lived in Monroe County from 1805 on) and continued: "The original settlers had many of them intermingled with the native Indians, and some of the descendants of these partook of the wild, roving disposition of the savage, united to the politeness and courtesy of the Frenchman." Many other writers mention their comparative sobriety (although they were pretty bad) with approval. At any rate the *habitants*, in their religion, had a more effective control than the newcomers' social control could be, scattered as widely as these latter were.

AMUSEMENTS

Amusements as material customs are classified as modes of exercise and hunting, games and spectacles, social meet-

⁴⁹Pease, 19.

ings, and traveling. Obviously the conditions of the times necessitate placing more emphasis upon certain of these phases than upon others. Exercise and hunting were plainly not partaken of so much for amusement as in sheer necessity. Games and spectacles were considerably limited in scope, although entered into with great zest. Social meetings were the most available forms of amusement in the towns and more populous regions but to many of the first migrators were almost entirely unknown. Traveling for pleasure was limited to a few tourists, who in a large part were observing in order to relieve the pangs of writers' itch, and to the few very prosperous.

A note on reading for pleasure can be interjected at this point, to some profit. There were few books. To most they were curiosities; Abraham Lincoln's experience in reading, a few years after this period, and considerably farther east, is known to all. Reading for pleasure, then, could not be a large factor in the amusements of the Territory, although in certain localities it did play a part. Albion, on the English prairie had a public library during this period. It listed seventy-eight titles, of surprisingly high quality, and of these seventy-eight, many were the collected works of classic authors, which would give the whole collection a much greater diversity than the paucity of titles would indicate. Most of the truly professional men, the doctors, the lawyers, the ministers, had tiny collections, hardly worth calling libraries, yet there, and available, with the lavish hospitality of the time, to any serious seekers after the learning that appears between covers. There were newspapers, too, rather appalling newspapers according to our standards, and chiefly supported, not by subscribers, nor advertisers, but by government printing. They contained official publications, local news and editorial comment, Washington news and foreign news (usually quite old, but fresh to the

subscription list) and a great quantity of 'literary' writing, mostly copied, both in prose and verse. And now to the more common amusements.

The Illinoisans were always willing to be amused. Their independence allowed them to work when they chose and to play when they chose. Flagg noted this, when he wrote home: "The people of This Territory are from all parts of the United States and do the least work I believe of any people in the world."⁵⁰ Yet they must have worked sometime, or else Sunday wouldn't have been such an outstanding feature of the amusement calendar. Sunday was truly a day of recreation, not rest. They hunted, fished, hunted bees, broke horses, shot at marks, and ran horse and foot races, as well as those less wholesome practices described previously under the general description: etiquette. West tells of the various types of hunting and the usual kinds of game. Of course it is very hard to distinguish the line where hunting for fun, and hunting for profit are divided, but probably these folk knew little of such a distinction. That fox hunting, the regular thing of riding to hounds, existed is attested by other witnesses than West. He netted quail in the hazel thickets, and caught quail and prairie chickens in box-traps. He hunted deer, turkey, passenger pigeons, duck, brant, geese, cranes, swans, a few wild-cats, brown and grey wolves, and snakes. Rabbits and squirrels undoubtedly came in for a fair share of attention, as did every other living thing. The fire arms used were inefficient only in relation to time; they were slow to reload, and shot but the single ball, or charge of bird or buck shot. Their placing was all that could be desired in the way of accuracy.

Modes of exercise other than hunting were not so much a matter of physical culture as they were matters of proving that physical culture had been achieved: wrestling matches,

⁵⁰Flagg, 162.

horse-racing, a sport called "gander-pulling," shooting matches, "turkey-shoots," and, just plain fighting.

From the spectators' stand-point, the customs were healthier, since spectacles were fewer and participants more numerous.

As previously mentioned, games and sports were organized on a basis of utility, in most cases. Woods mentioned organized, competitive frolics in connection with husking, barn- and house-raising, log rolling, reaping and harvesting, sewing and quilting. Other events that were spectacular in the minds of these people were the regularly occurring court days and the religious camp-meeting.

Independence Day was celebrated at Kaskaskia in a thoroughgoing manner. On July 4, 1819, at Edwardsville, the program included opening the day with a salute of artillery to the flag, a parade, a public dinner with the much-fancied oratory, and the reading of the Declaration of Independence.

Other spectacles that were seen by as many of the inhabitants as could get there, were the annual parade and review of the militia, election day activities, horse-races and cock-fighting. Masonic dinners and orations on St. John's day were annual occurrences in the towns in which lodges were established. Davidson and Stuvé said that Louis XIV's cannon were used at Fort Russell, one and a half miles north of the present Edwardsville, for "days of festivity, dress parade and other display."⁵¹

The finer arts were also represented when a Mr. Cross, a teacher at Kaskaskia, advertised in the *Intelligencer* of January 1, 1818, that in the representatives' chamber of the legislative hall, he would "exert his best efforts for their moral amusement." He gave "various specimens of Elo-

⁵¹Davidson and Stuvé, *A Complete History of Illinois from 1673 to 1873*, 251.

cution, instructive and amusing, original and selected" in his repertoire, which was quite familiar in the neighborhood.⁵²

Turf meetings were prime favorites among the spectacles of the Territory. They seemed to have been much like the later county fairs. There were no exhibits but much business was done. Wrestling, jumping, racing, fighting, drinking, by attendance here, proved beyond a doubt their ubiquity. Reynolds estimated that a third of the males in Illinois were in attendance at a race run in 1803. He likened them to the "Olimpic" games. "The people came together from all points of the inhabited Illinois, and had a friendly interchange of sentiment—became acquainted [*sic*] with each other, and returned home as friendly as brothers."⁵³ This latter is to be doubted unless it refers to Cain and Abel. The carnage at these affairs was sometimes pretty frightful. "Small kegs of whiskey were often brought to the races," he continued, "—a keg in one end of a bag, and a stone in the other. [To balance across a horse's back.] Sometimes there was a keg in both ends." And whisky, as usually happened, started small wars. They drank like men, not like gentlemen.

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Gambling was popular. Reynolds reported as outstanding the fact that \$200 was once bet on a horse race which was run on ice. Another freak bet that he recorded was the stake of a case of champagne to the man who killed the first rabbit while hunting barefooted in the snow on Kaskaskia common.

He gave special notice of the French. "They were at times rather intemperate in smoking and dancing; but seldom indulged in either to excess at the same time or place.

⁵²Buck, 166-167.

⁵³Reynolds, *My Own Times*, 291.

"All classes observed a strict morality against hunting or fishing on the Sabbath: but they played cards for amusement often on the Sabbath.

"They had no taste for either horse racing or foot racing, wrestling, jumping, or the like; and did not often indulge in these sports. Shooting fowls on the wing, and breaking wild horses, afforded the French considerable amusement."⁵⁴

These games and spectacles, while of great interest to the folk of the region, were not frequent occurrences. The most frequent, and by far the most important and most familiar amusements, were those found in their social meetings. And of these the greatest was church going. To these people "religion was a social function, almost in the sense that a dance or a dinner is a social function." That sentence was used by a modern writer to describe the ancient Egyptians. It applies perfectly to the modern Egyptians who lived in the Egypt of Illinois. Personal philosophy and popular religion differed radically. In no sense could this heterogeneous group be said to have governed itself according to Christian principles, or even Theistic principles; it was as secular a state as could be. Great numbers, indeed, were devoted to a faith that demands abstinence and self-control of the faithful, but great numbers, also, were devoted to the satisfaction of physical needs, above all else.

Singing schools and societies supplied frequent occasion for social meeting, although most reporters imply that the singing was quantitative rather than otherwise and that volume was virtue.

The same strain of utility that runs through their games also runs through their social meetings, and an affair often does not emerge as purely social until its latter phase, as in

⁵⁴Reynolds, *The Pioneer History of Illinois*, 64.

the case of those commonly recurrent 'husking bees,' etc., which almost as commonly ended with dancing, when music was available. Even when neighbors went visiting they carried their knitting or sewing.

Next to church going, dancing was the leading cause for meeting. They danced in the houses, after clearing the floor, to the music of one or more fiddles. Their dances were usually the reel and the jig, although the waltz was introduced not much later than this period. Dances usually lasted all night.

"There were literary and debating societies in Fayette and in two neighboring counties. There was even a Handel-Haydn society."⁵⁵

Card playing for money was both fashionable and honorable although possibly a little quiet for these lusty frontiers-people.

On the English prairie an annual social meeting was Richard Flower's Christmas party, and very British it was, too, with "plumb" pudding, roast beef, mince pies, and four turkeys. After dinner they played and sang music, and Flower mentions that on one occasion nine couples of young people danced.

The *habitants* seem to have regarded dancing as a necessity. "In a state of almost starvation they hold their Gumbo balls twice a week. For nimbleness of foot and lightness of heart the French have never been surpassed."⁵⁶ The church of the *habitant* village was, of course, the main focal point of the social meeting. "In the French villages, as in most Catholic countries, the Sabbath was a day of hilarity and pleasure. The Catholic population, being principally French, attended mass in the morning . . . and in the after-

⁵⁵Pease, 21. This was in the early years of statehood. The writer has found no evidence that such existed in the Territory.

⁵⁶Buck, 89. Quoting Mason's *Narrative*.

noon assembled at private houses for social and merry discourse. Cards, dances, and various sports made up the pastime," said Reynolds. And it seems that there was quite a bit of dancing on the green of the churchyard.

Traveling for pleasure was an unimportant factor in the amusement of the Territorial. The roads were terrible, according to our standards, river craft were uncomfortable, fords were dangerous, ferries and toll bridges often charged exorbitant prices, road stations were often not only uncomfortable, but also mere traps of gangs who lived beyond the law. As an example of what the leisurely tourist might expect, the stage that ran from Kaskaskia to St. Louis left early Sunday morning and arrived in St. Louis at two p.m. Monday. The fare was four dollars, one way.

But there was some pleasure-touring, according to Moyers, who notes that "in 1805 the *Nonpareil*, an excursion boat, propelled by both oar and sail, ran an excursion from Marietta to New Orleans, the first such excursion of record."⁵⁷ The writer has seen no other evidence of long-distance travel during this period that was indulged in purely for the pleasure derived therefrom, except, possibly the gentleman-observer, and even he wrote down what he saw and sold it, or else we should never have heard of him.

Flower's was a typical European reaction to the conditions of frontier travel, although there are more fulsome praises and much more hearty damnations of the whole circumstance. He remarked that on the whole it wasn't as bad as he had expected. The provisions were abundant although tending to monotony. The beds were generally clean and mosquitoes were not as bad as reported, although the bed-bugs were quite as bad as their ill-repute. He complained of too many beds per room, and the fact that the

⁵⁷Moyers, "A Story of Southern Illinois;" *Jour. Ill. St. Hist. Soc.*, April, 1931, p. 95.

sick (who seemed to be frequent) slept in these common bedrooms along with the well. It must be remembered that Flower was an incurable optimist who hoped to get more and more immigrants from his native England to make the English prairie prosper.

The chief use of pleasure travel was the use of short journeys of from one to thirty miles as the means to the end of social meeting, "the more opulent ladies going and coming on their own horses with habits and side-saddles." The less fortunate went two on a horse.⁵⁸ Carriages, other than the very rudest of rude carts, were extremely rare. And of course with the growth of the settlements, Pioneer and Wife often went to town to see the sights. Important journeys generally started on a Sunday, on the principle: the better the day the better the deed. They almost never began on a Friday.

And that is the saga of fun on the American Bottoms. Amusement of the period is marked most of all by informality, and next by the violence of the exercise needed for successful participation. Universal participation in acts of amusing nature is a factor that seems to be vanishing today; it wasn't so then. It must be remembered that these horse races that drew such relatively large crowds (and even there everybody had his own sporting sideline), these sessions of oratory, these military reviews that the frontier writers expanded upon, were noted because they were "notable;" not because they were a part of daily life. The utility-frolics were the customary thing.

CONCLUSION

It is common to speak of our heritage from the pioneers, but what material inheritance have we from this group? The culture of the American Bottoms came into being spon-

⁵⁸Buck, 160.

taneously, and was so hurried by the tremendous speed of cultural evolution that it never had time to settle into tradition. All its improvements were impressed upon it from outside. Its traces as they live today must be looked for in public institutions, the township, the county, the bicameral legislature, which are still existing much as they were evolved from that period, and sometimes seem like antique heirlooms. But in the daily life of the modern Illinoisan, or, rather, in the daily *material* life of the modern Illinoisan, almost nothing can be found which has not been influenced more greatly by other and totally foreign factors.

Another fact that is known but which does not usually receive the emphasis that this study gives, is that this region, after the first wave of hunters and scouts had passed over it and the hunter-farmers had come in, was not the howling wilderness that frontier regions, according to school histories, are supposed to have been for decades after settlement. The map of Egyptian Illinois was spotted with settlements which were a strange mixture of civilization and barbarism. Champagne and whisky-hot-from-the-still, silks and raw wolf-hide, "plumb" pudding and hazle-shoots, were to be known on the same prairie, in the same clearing. And this is because, in a manner of speaking, the land was so rich that they didn't civilize it, it civilized them, in the course of a few decades, by enabling them to import those luxuries that they heard of from the East. But this mention must not place too much emphasis upon the isolated mirrors, books, silks, and pianos; this for the vast majority was a rude frontier, where a living was wrested from the raw earth, by dint of great exertion. The luxuries are important only insofar as they shadow the great accumulation of these things in the ensuing century; for the time being wood was the mark of their material culture.

One of the most important results of this study is the apparent truth that the immediate environment was so much more dominant in conditioning the people's *material* civilization than was the far-off background of their respective formative years. Physically, does this prove that environment is a relatively flexible control, the results of which are not felt after the scene is left? Or was the fact due to the relative poverty of the new status? Both questions remain unanswered. Perhaps the social psychologists should be invited to prove the hypotheses that economic and material interpretations have set up. The synthesis of our vast store of frontier knowledge is not nearly complete.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN IN BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS

By

HARRY E. PRATT

Abraham Lincoln walks the streets at midnight in Springfield, Illinois, said Vachel Lindsay in his famous poem. The same Abraham Lincoln walked the streets of Bloomington in the spring and fall of many a year as he followed the circuit courts of the Eighth Judicial District.

Although his associates have all passed on, their sons and daughters—their very grandchildren—remember with reverence that Lincoln visited at ‘our house.’ Bronze tablets mark but three of the places—the court house, Major’s Hall and Phoenix Hall—associated with his name. We could add Centre Hall, Royce Hall, Pike House, National House, Nichols Hotel and the homes of Judge David Davis, Jesse W. Fell, William Ward Orme, Dr. Cyrenius Wakefield, Ward H. Lamon and Leonard Swett. The law office of David Davis at 102 E. Front Street and the office of Swett & Orme in the Union Block, west of the court house square, were Lincoln’s headquarters while in Bloomington, and are still standing.¹

Abraham Lincoln formed a law partnership with John T. Stuart in 1837. Shortly after becoming associated with Stuart, the latter sent him to try a case in McLean County for an Englishman named Baddeley, giving him a letter of introduction.

¹The Fell and Orme homes, erected about 1857, are still standing.

Baddeley inspected his counsel's partner with amazement and chagrin. The young man was six feet four, awkward, ungainly and apparently shy. He was dressed in ill-fitting homespun clothes, with trousers a trifle short, and a coat a trifle too large. Baddeley's astonishment turned to indignation and rage. Without attempting to conceal his disgust he dispensed with Lincoln's services and retained James A. McDougall, later a United States Senator from California.² His business over, Lincoln's genius for making acquaintances probably took him to the center of town, then the corner of Front and Main Streets.

Upon inquiry he might have learned that the town boasted eight stores, three groceries or doggeries, two taverns, two lawyers, three physicians, a handsome academy building, two steam mills for sawing, Presbyterian and Methodist meeting houses and a total population of 700.³

The lawyer who waited for business to come to him in Illinois before 1850 never built up a clientele. The village forums were the places where reputations were won and lost, and a man who made his mark there was soon sought as a legal champion. Circuit work was the most picturesque practice of law recorded in the legal annals of this country.

In the McLean County Circuit Court May 9, 1838, A. Lincoln was appointed guardian ad litem to the infant heirs of Meril Lyon, deceased. In that summer both members of the firm of Stuart and Lincoln were candidates for office. Feeling certain of his reelection to the Illinois legislature (he got the highest vote of sixteen candidates), Lincoln took the stump for Stuart, then sick in bed. Stuart was seeking election to Congress in the third district which included the entire state north of Sangamon County. His opponent was

²F. T. Hill, *Lincoln the Lawyer*, p. 80; Volume one of McLean County Circuit Court Record, p. 86, has the case of Patricius Moran v. John W. Baddeley. This was on April 27, 1837, and may be the case referred to. The same case appears again on page 118, on Sept. 25, 1837.

³J. M. Peck, *Gazetteer of Illinois*, 1837.

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twenty-five-year-old Stephen A. Douglas, well known in Bloomington as a states attorney here in 1834.

Lincoln and Douglas came to town to campaign on the same day.⁴ The crowd gathered at the corner of Front and Main, where a preliminary stand-up fight (in words) between Douglas and David Davis took place. Repairing to the court house, Lincoln and Douglas presented the issues in half-hour turns. Stuart won the election by thirty-six votes in a total vote of 36,495 in the thirty-four counties. In McLean County he had fifty-seven per cent of the 1,257 votes.

In 1844 the proprietor of the old National House on the north side of Front Street between Main and Center was John W. Ewing. Here his son James S. Ewing, fifty years later U. S. Minister to Belgium, saw McDougall, Stuart and the lanky Lincoln sprawled on the chairs in the tavern's crude lobby. Going out the back door, Ewing and his playmates could cut across the lot to the tavern stable, facing Center Street in the middle of the block, and meet the incoming coterie of lawyers and drummers. Many years later James S. Ewing remarked: "For a number of years he [Lincoln] was accustomed to stay at my father's house while attending court here." A younger brother William was nicknamed "Whig" by Lincoln and was thereafter known as Whig Ewing.

It was an era of good feeling and lasting friendships were formed. Court days were gala days with the people, and were looked forward to with ever recurring interest. Usually there were one or two cases sufficiently important to stimulate the lawyers and arouse the emotions of the on-lookers. Folks came to court whether they had business there or not, and an old-fashioned hospitality prevailed from the beginning to the end of the term.

⁴Bloomington *Daily Pantagraph*, Mar. 12, 1898. This story is generally believed in Bloomington though no contemporary proof can be found.

In 1844, David Davis of Bloomington wrote to his brother-in-law: "I returned home day before yesterday, and found home deserted, and office, too, and feel pretty lonely. Some four weeks ago, I left on my circuit . . . bush-whacking it. . . . There is some fun, and a good deal of excitement in practicing law in this prairie state, but not much profit or personal comfort. We have been deluged with rain this spring. The windows of heaven are certainly open. Bad roads, broken bridges, swimming on horses, and constant wettings, are the main incidents in western travel."⁵

"Generally," wrote Davis, "those with no business come to court the first day. It begins at eleven o'clock in the morning. Grand jury is sworn in and charged by the prosecuting attorney, never by the judge. The court adjourns to next morning, this lets the presidential electors talk the rest of the day. Lincoln is a Whig elector [1844]. Lincoln is the best stump speaker in the State. Shows the want of early education, but has great powers as a speaker."⁶

LINCOLN IN THE McLEAN COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

The circuit court records of McLean County were destroyed in the great fire, June 19, 1900. However, from Lincoln's letters, the newspaper files and the recollections of his contemporaries notice of his more important cases can be set forth.

He attended every April and every September term of the local circuit court from the fall of 1849 through the spring of 1860 with the two exceptions of April, 1851, and September, 1859. However, he did attend the special June term in 1857, making a total of twenty-one out of twenty-three terms in the twelve-year period. It is very likely that he was here most of the time from 1839 on, the year the

⁵David Davis to Julius Rockwell, May 14, 1844.

⁶David Davis to Wm. P. Walker, Decatur, Ill., May 4, 1844.

Eighth Judicial District was first organized. The record shows that Lincoln attended the court here after Springfield ceased to be a part of the Eighth Circuit in 1857.⁷

Lincoln appeared for the plaintiff, Meshach Pike, against Schaffer in a suit to set aside the sale of the Pike Hotel on the ground of fraud on the part of the purchaser. Judge T. Lyle Dickey of Ottawa and local attorneys appeared for the defense. On Christmas day in 1857 the jury found the defendant not guilty. The court ordered him discharged and assessed damages against the plaintiff, Lincoln's client.⁸

The *Weekly Whig* of Bloomington, October 1, 1851, carried this notice: "Circuit court now in session. The lawyers in attendance are Lincoln and Campbell of Springfield, W. Parker of Pekin, Emerson Wait, Post and Bunn of Decatur, A. Gridley, Wm. H. Holmes, John M. Scott, John H. Wickizer, Amzi McWilliams and Wm. H. Hanna of this city. We understand the docket is small and very little business to do." A great change must have come over the people for at the spring term of 1857, there were 396 new cases on the docket. Cases left over from the last term numbered about as many as the new ones.⁹

General Gridley, lawyer, banker and land dealer, once becoming angry at William F. Flagg, reaper manufacturer, poured slanderous accusations upon him, with the result that Flagg sued him. As Gridley cooled he regretted his impulsiveness but the case was at law, and the only thing to do was to defend it. Lincoln was retained, and soon saw that he had a bad case. "Gridley," he said, "do you know what my defense is going to be in this case?" "No," asked Grid-

⁷Paul. M. Angle, *Lincoln, Day by Day, 1854-1861*; Benjamin P. Thomas to the author, Springfield, Ill., Jan. 20, 1936.

⁸*Daily Pantagraph*, Dec. 28, 1857.

⁹*Ibid.*, Mar. 21, 1857. Of the new cases 24 were criminal, 61 in chancery, and 311 at common law.

ley, "what is it?" "My line of defense is going to be that your tongue is no slanderer, that the people generally know you to be impulsive, and say things you do not mean, and they do not consider what you say as slander." Gridley was satisfied. Lincoln went to Flagg and in this manner effected a compromise and the case was settled.¹⁰

One wintry day, Judge Davis, circuit judge from 1848 to 1862, was holding court, when Lincoln came in. He was cold from his walk from the depot, and took a seat by the stove. He was soon surrounded by a half-dozen lawyers, and, as usual, the story telling began. The bustle and subdued laughter annoyed the judge beyond patience. Suspending operations and looking toward the stove he said: "Mr. Lincoln, we can't get on together any longer, you'll have to adjourn your levee, or I'll have to adjourn court." Whereupon Lincoln arose and left the room.¹¹

On another occasion Mr. Flagg, the reaper manufacturer, sued Cyrus McCormick for \$20,000 for infringement of patents on a reel. The suit hung fire for two years in the circuit court at Springfield when finally it was decided in favor of Mr. Flagg. Mr. Lincoln had charge of Mr. Flagg's interests and charged him ten dollars for his services.¹²

Zachariah Lawrence, better known as "Squire," was a justice of the peace in Bloomington from 1846 to 1881. The Squire remembered Lincoln coming to his office and sitting down at a table, taking a half sheet of note paper and announcing that he had to write a declaration. When the Squire remarked that it was a pretty small piece of paper to write a court declaration on, Lincoln replied "that he had

¹⁰*Weekly Pantagraph*, Jan. 28, 1881.

¹¹*Ibid.*, Feb. 17, 1864.

¹²*Daily Pantagraph*, July 9, 1902. Statement of Abram Brokaw, pioneer plow manufacturer in Bloomington, who added: "I knew Lincoln well and at one time he did some legal work for me."

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always found it best to make few statements, for if he made too many the opposite side might make him prove them.”¹³

The Squire then appealed to his visitor for his opinion in a justice of the peace matter. Lincoln told the law and then said if the case went to the supreme court all the advantage the judges would have would be that they would have the last guess.

“One time,” remarked Squire Lawrence, “I heard him argue a case, which he told the jury was a case of ‘skinner’ and ‘skinnee’ and that his client was the ‘skinnee.’” In a suit of John Hendryx against John Bishop, a witness, a nephew of Hendryx, said it involved a fight that extended over a ten acre field. Lincoln then inquired how much fight that was to the acre.¹⁴

Lincoln had a part in the most sensational trial of the fifties in McLean County, the case of the People v. Wyant. The murder was committed in the county clerk’s office at Clinton in October, 1855. In broad daylight, and in the presence of several people, Wyant shot a man named Rusk no less than four times with a revolver.

There had been bad blood between Wyant and Rusk for some months previous, and in June the two had had a fight, in which Rusk shot Wyant in the arm. The arm had to be amputated. The evidence for the defence was that Wyant was ever after morbidly fearful that Rusk would kill him, and that he complained greatly of his head, and manifested many signs of being “unsettled in his intellect.”

The fact of the killing was not controverted, the defence resting on the ground of insanity. Several medical witnesses were examined on this point, among them Doctor McFarland of the State Lunatic Asylum and Doctors Roe, Spencer

¹³*Weekly Pantagraph*, July 23, 1897.

¹⁴*Ibid.*



LINCOLN MEMORIAL MEETING, APRIL 15, 1865

The square building (right center) is the McLean County Court House, in which Lincoln practised law. In the background (center) is the First Methodist Church in which, in 1850, the first Illinois Wesleyan University classes

and Parke of Bloomington. Counsel for the state was Ward H. Lamon, states attorney, A. Lincoln, C. H. Moore, and Harvey Hogg. The defence was in the hands of Swett & Orme of Bloomington. The case occupied the week of March 31, 1856, the court room being filled with spectators, the newspapers printing the speeches and the evidence. The jury verdict was acquittal, coupled with a recommendation for the prisoner's confinement in a lunatic asylum.¹⁵

LINCOLN'S ABILITY AS A LAWYER

Lincoln's ability as a lawyer may be judged from the words of his contemporaries in Bloomington. Lawrence Weldon said: "In the trial of a cause he moved cautiously and never examined or cross examined witnesses to the detriment of his own side. If the witness told the truth, he was safe from his attacks, but woe betide the unlucky or dishonest individual who suppressed the truth or colored it."¹⁶

"Lincoln was a great cross examiner," declared James S. Ewing, "in that he never asked an unnecessary question. He knew when and where to stop with a witness, and when a man has learned that he is entitled to take rank as an expert questioner."¹⁷

Mr. Leonard Swett remarked that "any one who took Lincoln for a simple minded man (in the court room) would very soon wake up on his back in a ditch."¹⁸ Adlai E. Stevenson said: "I have never known a more powerful advocate. He took a deep interest in young men, and often spoke to them words of encouragement. He was ever the generous, kindly gentleman."¹⁹

¹⁵*Daily Pantagraph*, April 1, 1857.

¹⁶Allen T. Rice, *Reminiscences of Abraham Lincoln*, p. 202.

¹⁷F. T. Hill, *Lincoln the Lawyer*, p. 222.

¹⁸*Ibid.*, p. 212.

¹⁹*The Aegis*, Bloomington High School, Feb., 1906.

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Judge Weldon told of an occasion when a lawyer challenged a juror because of his personal acquaintance with Mr. Lincoln, who appeared for the other side. Such an objection was regarded as more or less a reflection upon the honor of an attorney in those days, and Judge Davis, who was presiding at the time, promptly overruled the challenge; but when Lincoln rose to examine the jury he gravely followed his adversary's lead and began to ask the jury whether they were acquainted with his opponent. After two or three had answered in the affirmative, however, his honor interfered. "Now, Mr. Lincoln," Davis observed severely, "you are wasting time. The mere fact that a juror knows your opponent does not disqualify him." "No your honor," responded Lincoln, "but I am afraid some of the gentlemen may *not* know him, which would place me at a disadvantage."²⁰

Lincoln's best known case in Bloomington was that in which he sued the Illinois Central Railroad for a \$5,000 fee. In 1854 the railroad brought suit against McLean County to restrain the collection of certain taxes alleged to be due. The legislature had granted the corporation exemption from all state taxes on condition that it pay seven per cent of its gross earnings into the state treasury. The county authorities, however, held that this provision did not preclude them from taxing so much of the railroad property as lay within their respective jurisdiction. The issue was a vital one for the corporation, for the claims of the county threatened it with bankruptcy. Lincoln with James F. Joy conducted the defence with skill, but lost in the first court. They appealed the case to the supreme court, and there it was argued in 1854 and again in 1856. The supreme court reversed the trial court, thus sustaining Lincoln and Joy.

In June, 1857, a year and a half after this decision, Lincoln's suit against the railroad for his \$5,000 fee began in

²⁰F. T. Hill, *Lincoln the Lawyer*, p. 212.

Bloomington. No one appeared for the railroad, so the jury, after hearing Lincoln's evidence, assessed his damages at \$5,000. Five days later, on motion of the defendant's attorney, the verdict was set aside. A jury was called in, and again returned a verdict for Lincoln, this time for the sum of \$4,800, Lincoln having forgotten a \$200 retainer fee previously paid. This trial was held before Judge Jesse O. Norton of Joliet, with whom Judge Davis had exchanged circuits.²¹

Lincoln's connection with the 'Whisky-Zootic' of 1855 is worthy of mention. Bloomington had prohibition in 1854-1855, due in part to a temperance wave that swept over the country and resulted in the election of a dry council and Franklin Price, a dry mayor. The trouble started when Thomas Vickroy appeared before Jesse Birch, then acting police magistrate, on June 26, 1855, and complained on oath that he had good reason to believe great quantities of liquor were deposited at Reynolds & Fuller's rectifying establishment in Pone Hollow, for the purpose of sale contrary to the ordinances of the city.

Ephraim Platt, the city marshal, set out to examine the place and seize and possess any such liquors. Before he succeeded, it was necessary to call in the aid of the mayor and two constables. Reynolds & Fuller, feeling grieved at such action, sought the comfort only to be found in legal advice. The case duly appeared in Judge Davis' court in September, with Gridley & Wickizer upholding the liquor interests with a plea of trespass. They cited that certain goods and chattels including fifty casks each of brandy, gin and whisky, plus fifty barrels each of brandy, gin, vinegar, high wines and cherry bounce of the value of \$2,000 had been knocked, cast, thrown about and damaged. Mr. Lincoln, counsel for the city, filed a plea characteristic for its brevity

²¹*Weekly Pantagraph*, July 1, 1857.

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and pointedness, denying most emphatically the plaintiff's declaration. After the usual amount of pleading the case was finally before a jury. Their verdict was: "We the jurors find judgment against Ephraim Platt, city marshal and A. B. Davidson, constable, for six hundred dollars." Thus Lincoln lost his case, and the quietus was put on temperance in Bloomington for twenty years.²²

Abraham Lincoln was the first counsel for the Bloomington board of education, being retained in 1857 to compel the city council to levy a tax providing a school fund, under a special charter granted by the legislature to the city in February of that year.

At the school board meeting on May 19, 1857, the following preamble and resolution was adopted: "Whereas the city council have declined by resolution of said council performing the duties assigned them by the act to establish and regulate a system of public schools in the city of Bloomington: Therefore resolved — that the superintendent be instructed to employ A. Lincoln to take the necessary steps to procure from the circuit court, a writ of mandamus to compel said city council to levy the tax as required of them by section eight of said school law."²³ Judge Owen T. Reeves, a member of the board, drew up the writ of mandamus and went in search of Mr. Lincoln. He found him comfortably located in a chair on the shady side of the court house square. In reply to Reeve's questions he declared: "The Council ought to meet that tax without resistance and without the expense of conducting a mandamus suit." This message was borne to the mayor, who sought an interview with Mr. Lincoln, as a result of which there was an immediate amicable adjustment and the tax was levied.

²²*Weekly Pantagraph*, Sept. 17, 1856; *Daily Pantagraph*, Mar. 25, 1874.

²³Minutes of the Board of Education of School District 87, Bloomington, Illinois, p. 13.

The Board of Education of the State of Illinois employed Lincoln to draw up the bond to guarantee the pledge of the McLean County subscription of \$70,000 to establish the Illinois State Normal University in 1857. The guarantee was signed by eighty-five individuals and firms in Bloomington guaranteeing amounts of from \$500 to \$5,000 each. No trouble arose over the county subscription so the guarantee was never enforced.²⁴

LINCOLN'S SPEECHES IN BLOOMINGTON

The McLean circuit court convened on September 11, 1854, for a term of two weeks' duration. The next day Lincoln addressed a German Anti-Nebraska meeting at the court house, a speech characterized by the *Pantagraph* as "clear and unanswerable for it was a plain statement of facts, and of sound, strong argument. It was eloquent, for he spoke the deep convictions of truth from a heart warmed with the love of his country, and the love of freedom."²⁵

Two weeks later he met Douglas at the National House. Douglas refused Jesse W. Fell's suggestion of a joint debate between Lincoln and himself. Lincoln listened to Douglas' speech in the afternoon and in the evening "after candle-light," addressed a Whig meeting in the court house. "Mr. Lincoln," said the *Pantagraph*, "spoke of Judge Douglas in a less denunciatory manner than is the custom on such occasions."²⁶

On May 28, 1856, Lincoln came up from Decatur on the train and went to the home of Judge Davis where he was to stay overnight. On that day Ezra M. Prince, a young Bloomington lawyer, was standing in Leonard Swett's law office at 214 North Center Street. "Come quick Prince," called Mr. Quigg, Swett's brother-in-law, "here is Mr.

²⁴*History of McLean County*, 1879, p. 430, contains a copy of the guarantee and the list of the signers.

²⁵*Weekly Pantagraph*, Sept. 20, 1854; Paul M. Angle, *New Letters and Papers of Lincoln*, pp. 133-136.

²⁶*Journal of the Ill. State Hist. Soc.*, April, 1935 has a copy of this speech.

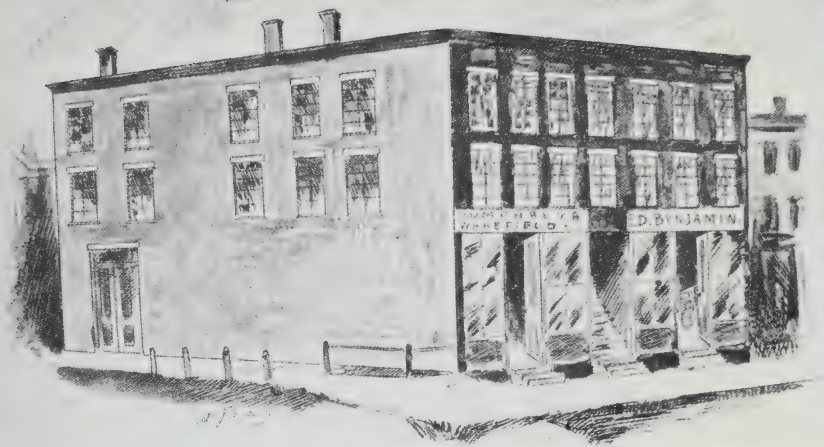
Lincoln." Prince hurried to the window to get his first glimpse of the Springfield lawyer of whom he had heard so much. The figure he saw crossing the court house lawn he described as "a tall, gaunt man, sallow complexion, coarse dark hair, an old battered stove pipe hat on the back of his head, coarse rough boots, innocent of blacking, baggy pants much too short for his long legs and a rusty bombazine coat that hung loosely about his frame."²⁷

In the evening a crowd gathered before the Pike House at the corner of Center and Monroe Streets where Lincoln led off with the first speech. John M. Palmer of Carlinville, John Wentworth of Chicago, and E. B. Washburne of Galena followed with stirring speeches. The next morning the state convention of Anti-Nebraska Whigs met in Major's Hall. Lincoln and his law partner William H. Herndon were among the delegates from Sangamon County. The business of the day over, Lincoln addressed the convention from 5:30 to 7:30 and on conclusion the audience sprang to their feet and cheer followed cheer. This speech is commonly known as the "lost speech," through the lack of a complete version of it.²⁸ Judge R. M. Benjamin of Bloomington, who heard it, wrote later: "A great speech requires a righteous cause, an inspiring occasion, and a man who measures up to the full height of the cause and the occasion."

The *Pantagraph* editorial the next week said: "Several most heart stirring and powerful speeches were made during the convention; but without being invidious, we must say that Mr. Lincoln on Thursday evening surpassed all others—even himself. His points were unanswerable, and the force and power of his appeals were irresistible and were received with a storm of applause."

²⁷E. M. Prince, *A Day with Abraham Lincoln*, MS in McLean Co. Hist. Soc.

²⁸*Transactions of McLean Co. Hist. Soc.*, Vol. III. The entire volume is devoted to this convention and the meeting of May 29, 1900, commemorating it.



MAJOR'S HALL AND THE PIKE HOUSE

In Major's Hall, which occupied the top story of the square building shown above, Lincoln delivered his "Lost Speech." The third story of this building burned in 1872, but the remainder is still standing. From the balcony of the Pike House Lincoln spoke on the eve of the "Lost Speech."

This Bloomington speech in Major's Hall made Lincoln the Illinois leader of a new party which within a year took possession of the state government and four years later placed him at the head of the nation.

The roof and walls of the third floor of Major's Block where the hall was located have long since disappeared; burned in the fire in November, 1872. "The place where Lincoln stood," said Judge Benjamin, "is open to the free currents of the air beneath the glory of the sun and the silent light of the stars. That speech was never 'lost.' Its influence and inspiration went with the great men who heard it—men who had no small part in making this continental nation an 'indestructible union' of free states."

While attending the fall term of the circuit court on September 12, 1856, Lincoln and T. Lyle Dickey of Ottawa addressed a large Republican gathering in Major's Hall. A large number of ladies heard Lincoln, with great eloquence and power, show up the Fillmore party in fine style.²⁹

On the following Tuesday, Lincoln and Leonard Swett attended the Democratic rally at Hinshaw's Grove at the corner of Taylor and Low Streets. In the evening while the Democrats were holding forth at the Pike House, Lincoln spoke at Major's Hall, his third speech in that hall in 1856. "A most masterly speech in which he tore the day-time speeches of the Bucks at their great meeting into ribbons," declared Lincoln's ardent supporter the *Pantagraph*.³⁰

The Young Men's Association invited Lincoln to address them on April 6, 1858. They invited in the McLean County Teachers Institute then in session. In announcing the occasion the *Pantagraph* commented: "We are not yet advised of

²⁹*Weekly Pantagraph*, Sept. 17, 1856.

³⁰*Daily Pantagraph*, Sept. 24, 1856. Major's Hall was a three-story building erected by Wm. T. Major in 1852-53 at the southwest corner of East and Front Streets.

the theme selected by the orator, but that the address will be eloquent and instructive we can safely assure our readers in advance." Three hundred and fifty people crowded into Centre Hall at the corner of Washington and Centre Streets. Lincoln read his lecture on Discoveries and Inventions. This was the first time he had delivered it though he later gave it twice in Springfield and in Jacksonville. A year later when he was scheduled to give it again at Phoenix Hall for the benefit of the Ladies Library Association the audience was so small that the loyal few were given back their twenty-five cents admission. Once on refusing to give it in Rock Island he wrote: "I am not a professional lecturer. Have never got up but one lecture and that I think rather a poor one." But the crowd in Centre Hall liked it. The newspaper report said: "The first half of the lecture displayed great research and a careful study of the Bible. . . . The latter half was brimful of original thought. The whole forcibly reminded us of his legal arguments, wherein he first states the facts in a clear and simple manner, and then reasons from these facts backward and forward to cause and effect."

Two months later at the McLean County Republican Convention, Jesse W. Fell offered this resolution: "Resolved that Lincoln is our first, last and only choice for the vacancy soon to occur in the United States Senate; and that despite all influences at home or abroad, domestic or foreign, the Republicans of Illinois, as with the voice of one man, are unalterably so resolved; to the end that we may have a *big man*, with a *big mind*, and a *big heart*, to represent our state." A week later the Republican State Convention adopted this resolution and the Lincoln-Douglas campaign of 1858 was on.

Douglas arrived in Bloomington July 16, 1858, in a private car attached to the Illinois Central train from Chi-

cago. The private car caused much comment in the Republican city as some two thousand gathered at the station to greet him. The roar of the cannon on the flat car attached to Douglas' train was answered by the town artillery. The band played "Hail Columbia" as the cheering throng escorted him to the Pike House, gaily decorated in his honor.

Lincoln was in town to hear Douglas' second speech in the campaign, and he, like many others, went to the hotel to pay his respects to the Senator and his wife. In the conversation, Mrs. Douglas asked Mr. Lincoln if he had been abroad. "Madam," he replied, "not to be abrupt, but to cut the matter short, the truth about it is I have never been anywhere."⁸¹

That night Douglas spoke in the court house square. Lincoln sat on the platform and listened to the long address, and late as it was when he finished, the crowd called loudly for him. He held back for a little while, but when he did come forward his friends gave him three rousing cheers much louder than those given for Judge Douglas. He told the crowd he would soon visit them again and make a speech, but that "this meeting was called by the friends of Judge Douglas and it would be improper for me to address it."⁸²

On the third of September, a week after the Freeport debate, Lincoln stopped off at the home of Judge Davis. At two o'clock the next afternoon the court house bell began to ring, a procession formed and the marshal of the day, William McCullough, gave the command to march. The marshal was followed by the fife and drum corps, the German Societies, the assistant marshal Ward H. Lamon, citizens on foot and Pullen's Brass Band. Arriving at "Clover Lawn," the home of Judge Davis on the east side of the city,

⁸¹*Weekly Pantagraph*, Feb. 14, 1902. Giving the recollections of Judge Lawrence Weldon.

⁸²*Daily Pantagraph*, July 17, 1858.

a halt was called. The crowd cheered for Mr. Lincoln, who soon came forth with Judge Davis, Leonard Swett and Dr. Isaac Baker, the president of the day, and took seats in a carriage. A second carriage contained C. P. Merriman, Samuel C. Parks, of Lincoln, Illinois, and Lawrence Weldon, president of the local Lincoln club. The procession then went down Washington Street to the court house. They passed beneath large banners strung across the street bearing the mottoes:

“Our Country, Our Whole Country, and Nothing but our Country.”

“Freedom Is National—Slavery Is Sectional.”

“The Union—It Must Be Preserved.”

Above the north door of the court house was the representation of a ship and underneath it the words: “Don’t Give Up the Ship—Give Her a New Pilot.” With a crowd of not less than 7,000 in and around the public square, Dr. Isaac Baker presented Leonard Swett who introduced the speaker of the day. As Mr. Lincoln warmed to his subject he said: “It is not merely an agitation got up to help men into office. . . . The same cause has rent asunder the great Methodist and Presbyterian churches. . . . It will not cease until a crisis has been reached and passed. When the public mind rests in the belief that slavery is in the course of ultimate extinction it will become quiet. We have no right to interfere with slavery in the states. We only want to restrict it where it is. We have never had an agitation except when it was endeavored to spread it. . . . The framers of the constitution prohibited slavery (not in the constitution, but the same men did it) north of the Ohio river where it did not exist, and did not prohibit it south of that river where it did exist. . . . I fight slavery in its advancing phase, and wish to

place it in the same attitude that the framers of this government did."³³

If the state and the nation were stirred by this campaign it is safe to say McLean County went wild for the next two months. The climax came only three days before the election when 3,000 zealots, led by Pullen's Brass Band, invaded the state capital. Election day in Bloomington brought banners flying in the breeze with the motto: "*Today Freedom and Slavery Join Battle on the Prairies of Illinois.*" Thirteen hundred and seventy-eight people filed through the jail to cast their ballots, giving an eight-to-five ratio for the Republicans. Democrats meeting Republicans after the election said: "Well boys, you've got us this time; all we ask of you is not to crowd the mourners." The *Pantagraph* editorialized: "Whether *Lincoln* shall henceforth occupy the private station he now adorns, or whether it shall soon be the privilege of the Republican party to rally under his leadership and bear him on—this time to victory and power—his name is on the scroll of fame—

'One of the few, the immortal names
That was not born to die.'"³⁴

While attending his last circuit court in Bloomington, April 10, 1860, Lincoln made his last long political speech before being nominated for President by the Republican National Convention in Chicago, May 18, 1860. In spite of the rain and the mud, between 1,200 and 1,500 packed into Phoenix Hall on the south side of the court house square, to hear a speech that was "clear, appropriate, forcible and conclusive on every point." The newspaper called Mr. Lincoln probably the fairest and most honest political speaker in the country, adding that "he convinces the understanding by arriving at legitimate and unavoidable se-

³³*Ibid.*, Sept. 4, 1858.

³⁴*Ibid.*, Nov. 3, 16, 1858.

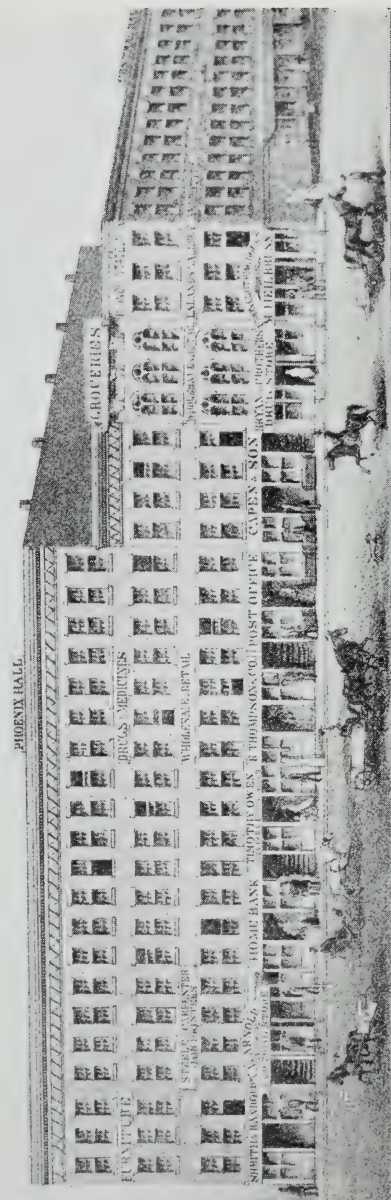
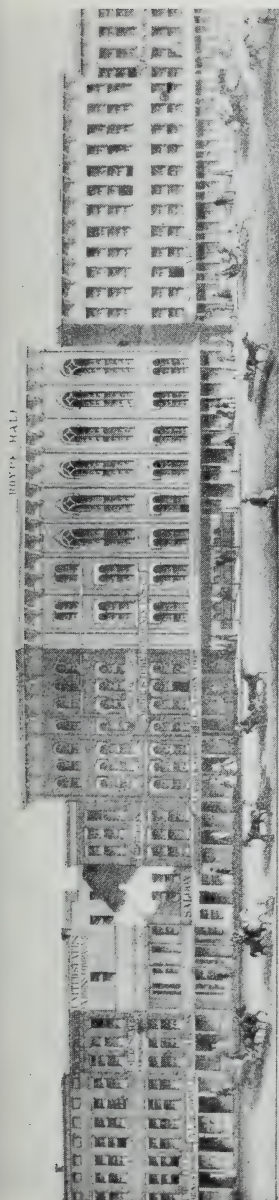
quences, he wins the hearts of his hearers by the utmost fairness and good humor."³⁵

Between his nomination in May, 1860, and his departure for Washington on February 11, 1861, Lincoln made but three short speeches. One of these was at the Chicago & Alton depot in Bloomington on the twenty-first of November while on his way to Chicago to meet the vice-president-elect, Hannibal Hamlin. A large crowd gathered at the station in spite of the effort to keep the journey secret. They cheered Mr. Lincoln as he stepped on the platform of the coach. His speech was short: "Fellow Citizens of Bloomington and McLean County: I am glad to meet you after a longer separation than has been common between you and me. I thank you for the good report you made of the election in Old McLean. The people of the country have again fixed up their affairs for a constitutional period of time. By the way, I think very much of the people, as an old friend said he thought of woman. He said when he lost his first wife, who had been a great help to him in his business, he thought he was ruined—that he could never find another to fill her place. At length, however, he married another, who he found did quite as well as the first, and that his opinion now was that any woman would do well who was well done by. So I think of the whole people of this nation—they will ever do well if well done by. We will try to do well by them in all parts of the country, North and South, with entire confidence that all will be well with all of us."³⁶

After Lincoln had concluded, Lyman Trumbull spoke briefly. Loud calls went up for Mrs. Lincoln. She appeared, bowed gracefully to the crowd, and shook hands with those who approached her in the car.

³⁵*Ibid.*, April 11, 1860.

³⁶Paul M. Angle, *New Letters and Papers of Lincoln*, p. 258.



BLOOMINGTON IN LINCOLN'S TIME

Major's Hall is shown at the left of the upper panel, and at the extreme right is the Nichols House, where Lincoln is said to have stopped occasionally. At the extreme right of the lower panel is Central Hall where Lincoln lectured, and in the center is

LINCOLN AND SOCIAL LIFE IN BLOOMINGTON

The social side of Lincoln's visits to Bloomington is of interest. Four families took turns giving dinners to the lawyers during court week — David Davis at his place, "Clover Lawn"; Wm. H. Allin, 307 W. Jefferson; James Miller, 801 S. Madison; and Jesse W. Fell, at "Fell Park" in North Bloomington, now Normal. All four men were known to Lincoln as soon as he started his travels on the eighth circuit. Davis was a circuit lawyer from 1836 to 1848 and then judge of the Eighth Circuit until 1862, when Lincoln put him on the United States Supreme Court. Allin was the son of the founder of Bloomington and a merchant who took an active part in local affairs. James Miller was active in politics and state treasurer from 1856 to 1860. Jesse W. Fell was a lawyer, newspaper founder and editor, farmer, promoter and one of the truly great citizens of the county.

Lincoln did not attend the December, 1859, session of the McLean Circuit Court, the first long session in the court's history, lasting some six weeks. Judge Davis made a serious effort to clear the docket, instructing the grand jury to content themselves with presentations of a serious nature only — "something worthy of penitential honors or hempen promotion—grave subjects only."

During the last week of the court the Bloomington Aid Society held in Phoenix Hall their Great Promenade Concert, now known in local history as "Lamon's Minstrels." Lamon, when elected prosecuting attorney in 1856, moved to Bloomington and became a town character overnight. He organized Lamon's Infantry, the press commenting that "the boys are well set up with their new Captain and well may they be, for a larger heart in a more soldierly form never led on to victory."

LINCOLN IN BLOOMINGTON

The minstrel show was Lamon's crowning achievement. Flaming posters announced a varied and startling program of "*Double Somersaults and Ground and Lofty Tumbling by Judge Davis.*" Davis then weighed a shade over 300 pounds and had recently vaulted over his horse in a fit of anger at his fellow lawyers' comments upon his rotundity. A second poster announced, "*Dancing on a Tight Rope Stretched from the Gallery to the Stage by Uncle Jimmy Gilmore,*" another local heavyweight.

A large crowd including the bar attending Judge Davis' court responded to Lamon's flamboyant advertising. Lamon was fixed up in grand style with his black face and swallow tail coat borrowed for the occasion. After the opening chorus he got off his best gags and then "stopped" the show with his singing of the old familiar melody, *Angelina Baker*.

The feature of the show that is still recalled was the farce trial of a large number of prominent citizens for refusing Lamon's request to take part in the entertainment. All sorts of evidence was brought against them and they were fined indiscriminately five dollars each. A day or two later the women of the Aid Society visited Lamon's office and wanted the money that he had assessed against the delinquents. His office was in the old two-story brick court house. Lamon escorted the ladies to the court room on the second floor. Judge Davis was in the midst of a trial, but word was sent to him that some ladies were there to see him on an urgent mission. "Let them come in," said the judge. "Your honor," said Lamon, "you were fined five dollars at the minstrels for not reporting when summoned to take part. These ladies have come to collect the fines." Seeing the joke at once the sedate judge produced the money. "Now, your honor," said Lamon, "nearly all the lawyers in this court room have been likewise assessed and these ladies are come to collect it." "Sheriff," commanded the Judge, "guard the stairway and

let no man escape. Ladies collect your fines." They did to the total of \$150, to add to a like amount taken in at the door at the performance.

It was an exciting time, but nearly all the lawyers submitted to being held up with good grace. One or two, however, were not so willing to give up, and the next day they began suit in the court against Lamon for conducting a negro minstrel show without a license. Judge Davis set the trial for that evening following the adjournment of court. The court room was crowded. Lawyers Swett and Wickizer were appointed to defend Lamon, but Swett "smelled a rat" and failed to appear. Wickizer came, and was most unmercifully roasted. After the testimony was in, Judge Davis instructed the jury to bring in a verdict contrary to the evidence. They did, finding Wickizer guilty of defending Lamon, and sentenced him to treat the crowd to oysters, and set Lamon free.³⁷

Lincoln was fond of the theater and especially of the entertainments of the Newhall Family. This family took up their residence in Bloomington in November, 1850. Mr. W. D. Hillis, who directed the public performances of the family, taught vocal and instrumental music and Mrs. Hillis gave lessons on the guitar. Lincoln attended their concert at the Baptist church on April 29, 1852. Major's Hall, made famous by Lincoln's Lost Speech, was opened to the public May 5, 6, 1853, with two concerts by the Newhall Family. Tickets were fifteen and twenty-five cents and all seats were taken.³⁸

LINCOLN'S BLOOMINGTON LOTS

One of the things that are hard to understand in the life of Abraham Lincoln is his failure to acquire land. Most of

³⁷*Weekly Pantagraph*, Feb. 1, 1860, May 20, 1887, May 12, 1893; *Daily Pantagraph*, Nov. 19, 1879.

³⁸*Bloomington Weekly Whig*, Nov. 27, 1850, April 23, 1851; *Bloomington Intelligencer*, May 5, 1852, Oct. 6, 1852, May 4, 1853.

LINCOLN IN BLOOMINGTON

his associates on the eighth circuit were extensive landowners, especially C. H. Moore of Clinton and Judge Davis, each acquiring tens of thousands of acres. Among the few pieces of property Mr. Lincoln did acquire were two lots in Bloomington. These he bought on October 6, 1851, of Levi Davis of Alton, the sale being made through Judge Davis, a cousin of Levi Davis. The lots were located at the northwest corner of Jefferson and McLean Streets. Lincoln paid \$400 for them and on April 12, 1856, sold them to Francis Thomas for the same price.³⁹

Stephen A. Douglas also owned city property in Bloomington during the years 1836 to 1842, thus making Bloomington one of the very few cities where both these rival politicians owned land. Douglas was shrewd in the location of his property, buying the entire city block lying three squares west of the court house and a part of the second block east of the court house now occupied by the Withers Public Library.⁴⁰ Lincoln paid the taxes on four lots owned in Bloomington by his colored barber in Springfield, William Florville.⁴¹

FELL AUTOBIOGRAPHY

One of the two autobiographical sketches prepared by Abraham Lincoln was written in the court house in Bloomington and later, December 20, 1859, sent to Jesse W. Fell. Fell had toured the East during the Lincoln-Douglas debates and had noticed the great curiosity about Lincoln, and on his return proposed to Lincoln that he be a candidate for the Presidency in 1860. To start the campaign he should prepare a sketch of his life to be used for publicity purposes. After a year's delay it was prepared. In his letter accompanying the sketch Lincoln said: "There is not much to it,

³⁹Abraham Lincoln Association *Bulletin*, Dec. 1, 1929, p. 4.

⁴⁰Richard F. Dunn to the author, Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 13, 1936.

⁴¹Lincoln to M. W. Packard, Springfield, Ill., Feb. 10, 1860, in *Pantagraph*, Feb. 6, 1909.



BLOOMINGTON FRIENDS OF LINCOLN

Mrs. David Davis and David Davis (above), Jesse W. Fell (lower left), Leonard Swett (lower right).

for the reason, I suppose, that there is not much to me. If anything be made of it, I wish it would be modest, and not go beyond the material." The last line of the autobiography stated that "no other marks or brands recollected." This was the usual form in which legal notices of animals strayed or stolen appeared in the newspapers.

This autobiographical material was expanded into two newspaper columns in the Chester County (Pennsylvania) *Times* and reprinted in the *Weekly Pantagraph*, February 22, 1860. Several authors produced biographies of Lincoln on the basis of the three-page autobiography for the campaign of 1860, and some appear to have overlooked even this scanty source of facts.

Jesse W. Fell's enthusiasm for Lincoln for President soon converted Leonard Swett, David Davis, William H. Hanna, William W. Orme, and Lawrence Weldon of Bloomington, John M. Palmer of Carlinville, Norman B. Judd of Chicago, Richard J. Oglesby of Decatur and Stephen T. Logan of Springfield. These men determined to leave no stone unturned to get the Republican nomination for Lincoln. Everything went off according to schedule in the state convention at Decatur, and they then invaded Chicago, a week before the national convention. Judge Davis took over the third floor of the Tremont Hotel and paid the \$700 rent bill. They worked furiously lining up delegates for their choice, promising cabinet positions to Indiana and Pennsylvania for their support on the second ballot. On the third day of the convention the voting began. On the third ballot, seeing that Lincoln would be the likely nominee, all hurried to get on the bandwagon and he was nominated, May 18, 1860.

News of the selection reached Bloomington about one o'clock. The court house bell clanged, a crowd gathered and General Gridley opened with the first speech, followed by Brier, Wickizer, Harvey Hogg, and John M. Scott. At

LINCOLN IN BLOOMINGTON

the conclusion, Captain Enright gave his Bloomington Guards the command and a 100 gun salute roared out over the crowded square. The ratification meeting the next night in Phoenix Hall was addressed by Mr. George G. Fogg of New Hampshire, Secretary of the National Republican Committee, and Mr. Ballestier of New York, both members of the Chicago Convention.

Then the fun began—reminiscent of the Tippecanoe and Tyler campaign of 1840. The “Lincoln Continentals” for those over thirty years of age, the “Wide Awakes” for the younger sprouts and the “Lincoln Rangers” were organized and began their drilling and marching. Meetings and speeches were held on any occasion. Judge Davis was so busy that he neglected holding court.

The Republicans of Bloomington had met on March 24, 1860, and organized a “Lincoln for President” club with Dr. William C. Hobbs as president and an executive committee of John H. Wickizer, William W. Orme, C. P. Merriman and William H. Hanna. Upon Lincoln’s nomination this club enlarged its membership and held meetings each Friday night to create enthusiasm for the “railsplitter.”

The German Republicans met in North Slough east of the gas works and raised a Lincoln pole 150 feet long. The fever of erecting poles was catching, poles were raised all over town, the crowning achievement being the one surmounted by a monster tin globe at the northeast corner of the court house yard.

Ex-Governor Bebb of Ohio came to enliven a great rally. Oglesby filled the court house yard, and Caleb B. Smith of Indiana, who had been promised a cabinet position for Indiana’s vote at Chicago, “addressed 4,088 people exclusive of women and children.” His two-and-a-half hour speech was cheered constantly. Before leaving town he went

into a huddle with David Davis to remind him of the cabinet offer.

Democratic meetings were reported in the Republican *Pantagraph* as follows: "Last night a handful of gallinippers met under a locust bush in the court house yard." The enthusiasm was well spent. Lincoln carried the county with a 985 vote majority over Douglas. His majority in Bloomington was 406. In 1864 Lincoln had practically a two-to-one majority over his opponent, General George B. McClellan.

Election bets included the pushing of two wheelbarrows from Hudson, Illinois, the nine miles to Bloomington. One wheelbarrow contained a Republican and the other an ear of corn. The city fathers announced the day after the election that anyone firing a cannon on the court house square or 300 yards from same would have the law on him.

When President Lincoln made up his party to go to the inauguration he included two residents of Bloomington, David Davis and Ward H. Lamon. Davis was one of the very few privileged to read the first inaugural before it was delivered. It was Lamon who was selected by the President to accompany him on his secret night ride from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Washington.

CIVIL WAR

In Bloomington, on April 17th, four days after the surrender of Fort Sumter, a dozen men met in an upper room on Washington Street to devise means of securing the coöperation of all different parties in the prosecution of the war.

The Republicans were Jesse W. Fell, E. J. Lewis, editor of the *Pantagraph*, W. O. Davis, later editor of the *Pantagraph*, C. P. Merriman, later editor of the *Leader*, David

Brier, and one or two more. The Democrats were Hamilton Spencer, Dr. Thomas P. Rogers, Allen Withers, H. P. Merriman, editor of the *Statesman*, and D. J. Snow, editor of the *Times*. Resolutions were drawn up to suit all present except Mr. Snow. A mass meeting was called for that very night in Phoenix Hall and hand bills were put out. The *Pantagraph* the next day declared: "The meeting was a most harmonious, enthusiastic and glorious demonstration. Hamilton Spencer, a democrat presided and made the opening speech and then called on republicans and democrats alternately, including Rev. C. G. Ames, James S. Ewing, Harvey Hogg, Col. W. P. Boyd, E. M. Prince, Dr. T. P. Rogers, and E. R. Roe."⁴² Many Democrats yet unconvinced of the need for a united stand behind the President were converted by Stephen A. Douglas's great Union speech on April 27th before the Illinois legislature.

The day after the mass meeting, and three days after Lincoln's call for 75,000 troops, the first 113 volunteers were organized under Captain William H. Harvey, a veteran of the Mexican War. This was the first contingent of the 5,000 troops that McLean County furnished for the four year struggle.

Union sentiment in Bloomington was strong, though Copperheads and Sons of Liberty were numerous. The Bloomington *Times* was conducted by D. J. and B. F. Snow with such marked expressions of sympathy for the Southern states that the 94th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, the McLean County regiment, abetted by prominent citizens, destroyed the office and press and with them the paper, in August, 1862.

A straw vote taken by this regiment at Fort Morgan, Mobile Bay, Alabama, in 1864 gave Lincoln 492 votes to 32 for General McClellan.

⁴²*Weekly Pantagraph*, Aug. 4, 1871.

HARRY E. PRATT

LINCOLN'S DEATH

The first news of Lincoln's death was wired to Bloomington by Captain J. H. Burnham, editor of the *Pantagraph*, who overheard it in a hotel dining room in Chicago. The telegram asking his force to put out a special edition arrived here at nine in the morning of Saturday, April 15th, and the paper was soon on the streets.⁴³

Business was suspended and people gathered to discuss the national calamity. The ministers met and appointed three o'clock Sunday afternoon for a memorial service. It was a sad Easter as some five thousand stood for the service in the courthouse yard. On May 3, a like number stood in silent reverence along the Chicago & Alton track as the funeral train passed through to Springfield.

On the morning of President Lincoln's death Judge Davis received a telegram from Robert Lincoln, asking him to come to Washington and take charge of his father's affairs. The President had left no will, but the disposition of his estate was in competent hands. From 1865 to 1871, when the boy died, Davis was the guardian of Thomas Lincoln, commonly called Tad. The record of the \$110,000 estate of the President is an interesting story, but too long for this occasion.

Many years later Robert T. Lincoln wrote: "I cannot remember when I did not know Judge Davis, first as the Circuit Judge of whom I heard as a boy everything good from my father, and who was very kind to me. Upon my father's death I went to Judge Davis as a second father, and this he was to me until his death. I am deeply indebted to him for counsel and affectionate help on many occasions and revere his memory."⁴⁴

⁴³*Daily Pantagraph*, April 18, 1865.

⁴⁴Robert T. Lincoln to Thomas Dent, Manchester, Vt., Sept. 12, 1919.

THE "PEORIA TRUCE" DID DOUGLAS ASK FOR QUARTER?

By

ERNEST E. EAST

Much of the myth and mystery surrounding the so-called "Peoria Truce" between Stephen A. Douglas and Abraham Lincoln seems to be explained by evidence contained in contemporary newspaper accounts of events connected with the calcellation of a proposed joint discussion at Lacon, Marshall County, on October 17, 1854.

Senator Douglas, chairman of the important committee on territories when the Kansas-Nebraska Act was approved by Congress, returned to Illinois in the late summer of 1854 and made several speeches defending his sponsorship of the bill. Springfield Whigs joined in a communication to Lincoln urging him to follow up Douglas and make reply on behalf of the Anti-Nebraska element. Lincoln spoke at Bloomington on the night of September 26 in reply to Douglas who talked there in the morning. At Springfield on October 4 he replied again to Douglas who spoke in the capital city on October 3.

When Peoria Democrats announced that Douglas would speak in that city on October 16, Peoria Whigs sent a joint letter to Lincoln requesting him to reply to the Senator. Douglas consented to a joint discussion and the two champions, who were to appear four years later in a series of seven debates, spoke from the same platform at the old Peoria County court house.

It was agreed that Douglas should speak first, talking as long as he liked. Lincoln was to follow without time limit on his speech. Douglas then was to have sixty minutes to close the discussion.

The senator talked for three hours, closing at about 5:30 p.m. Lincoln then proposed that the people go home, get their suppers and come back to hear him. Dr. Robert Boal of Lacon afterward said Lincoln invited his listeners to return in the evening "if they wanted to see him skinned."

Lincoln spoke about three hours. Douglas arose to reply but suffered from hoarseness and talked less than his allotted hour.

The *Peoria Republican*,¹ daily and weekly, was Whig and a stout supporter of Abraham Lincoln. In its weekly issue of October 20, the *Republican* admitted that Douglas had lost his speaking voice. Said the *Republican*:

"He [Douglas] was entitled, according to the terms of the discussion, to an hour after Mr. Lincoln had concluded. He arose to reply, but he had very little to say. He had talked himself hoarse in the afternoon and with his voice had gone his arguments. He made a feeble effort to collect them, but soon became conscious that the route [*sic*] was complete."

Douglas was scheduled to speak in Lacon on October 17. Lincoln consented to go to Lacon at the solicitation of Doctor Boal and Judge Silas Ramsey to reply there to Douglas. Both Lincoln and Douglas appear to have passed the night of October 16 in Peoria. Douglas took an Illinois River steamer to Chillicothe and there boarded a train of the new

¹Files, Peoria Public Library: Thomas J. Pickett founded the *Peoria Republican* in 1850. On Oct. 1, 1854, he admitted to partnership S. L. Coulter, lately principal of Beaver Academy at Beaver, Pa. Louisa Nelson Bailey Pickett, wife of the editor, died Oct. 11, 1854, near Dry Run, Pa., when on a visit and was buried there. Coulter doubtless wrote the *Republican's* story of the Lincoln-Douglas joint discussion at Peoria.

THE "PEORIA TRUCE"

Peoria and Bureau Valley Rail Road which was due in Sparland at 9:30 a.m., according to its published schedule. A hack carried passengers to Lacon two miles away. Judge Elihu N. Powell and a number of Peoria Democrats went to Lacon with Douglas. Lincoln traveled by carriage with Boal, arriving in Lacon at one o'clock. Douglas already was at a hotel, according to Boal's statement.

Nothing in the actions of the principals up to this time tends to indicate that any suggestion of a "truce" was made at Peoria following the discussion there.

Files of the *Illinois Gazette*,² Whig newspaper published at Lacon, have not been preserved for the week of October 17, but a reprint of the *Gazette's* report on the cancelled discussion is found in the *Peoria Weekly Republican* of October 27. It reads:

"Lincoln and Douglas. Disappointment. — The large crowd assembled in this city on yesterday, to hear the celebrated champions discuss great questions of the day were doomed to disappointment. Douglas arrived from Peoria on the morning train; but was too unwell—in consequence of long speaking during the cool weather of Monday—to address the people. Hon. Abram Lincoln also was in town, but declined to speak unless in answer to Douglas. Thus there was no speaking at the time appointed, to the great disappointment of many who had come from a distance to the discussion, and the infinite annoyance of the court,³ which had adjourned to accommodate the speakers. Messrs. Lincoln and Douglas left the city this morning for their respective homes."

²Ellsworth, *Records of the Olden Time*. The *Illinois Gazette*, formerly the *Lacon Herald*, was founded in 1837 by Allen N. Ford, who sold it in 1858 to Joshua Allen. Spencer Ellsworth acquired the *Gazette* in 1866 and changed its name to the *Home Journal*.

³Records, Marshall County. Judge Edwin S. Leland of Ottawa was on the bench of the circuit court of Marshall County in October, 1854.

Douglas on October 18 went to Princeton where he spoke as scheduled. Owen Lovejoy replied to him.

The Senator proceeded to Aurora where he had an engagement to speak October 19, but he appears to have been too ill to talk. Frederick Douglass, Negro and former slave, was at Aurora to make reply to Senator Douglas.

The *Aurora Guardian*,⁴ dated Thursday, October 19, but evidently issued on Friday or Saturday, furnished an account of events of the day, including a turbulent meeting in the First Congregational Church at which the "Hon." Beman, son of the Rev. Nathan Sidney Smith Beman, a Presbyterian abolitionist of Troy, N. Y., struck B. F. Park of Aurora, a Douglas Democrat. Under the heading, "Black vs. White," the *Guardian* said, in part:

"On Wednesday the word came that Senator Douglas was to be met by Frederick Douglass, the Fugitive Slave, at Aurora. No one knew of it until announced in Chicago papers—and no one at Chicago as far as we can learn, until he informed the editor of the Western Citizen that he had come West to canvass Northern Illinois with the Senator. Well, Thursday came, and hundreds of people from abroad. The two Douglasses came. As soon as they arrived, both were taken sick. Frederick got well enough to speak, but Stephen did not. The Congregational church was crowded to overflowing with ladies and gentlemen. Frederick did not speak long. . . . We were unable to be present, but have been at much pains to ascertain the facts of the case.

"Beman and the two Douglasses left on the Cars at half-past four. We saw Stephen A. Douglas as he got into the Cars—he really looked sick. He looked as though he had no money, no friends, no home."

⁴Scott, *Newspapers and Periodicals of Illinois, 1814-1879*. The *Guardian*, established in 1852 by Simeon Whitley and Benjamin Wilson, was Democratic until the repeal of the Missouri Compromise when it became Free Soil.

THE "PEORIA TRUCE"

The Chicago *Times* noted the return of Douglas to his home in Chicago on the evening of October 19, adding: "We regret to say that his health in consequence of the great physical exertion he has made is not as good as it was. . . . A few days rest will, we hope, restore him to his wonted health."

The Senator evidently was worn from his labors if not actually ill. He filled several speaking engagements in Northern Illinois late in the campaign. Lincoln made Anti-Nebraska speeches at Urbana on October 24, at Chicago on October 27, and at Quincy on November first.⁵

Statements by William H. Herndon, B. F. Irwin and others, some time after the death of Douglas and of Lincoln, so positively declare the existence of a "truce" between the spokesmen on the Nebraska issue that the story has lived long as fact. A few skeptics have doubted it, but their skepticism has been without benefit of strong rebuttal testimony. Anti-Nebraska partisans make it appear that Douglas feared the consequences of continued debate with Lincoln and proposed that both abandon the discussion for the remainder of the campaign.

Beveridge, among other Lincoln historians, rejected the proposition that any truce was sought by Douglas, adding: "If he did say he would stop speaking during the last two weeks of the campaign if Lincoln would agree not to speak again, it was the only time in his life Douglas ever asked quarter of any man or combination; and it was the most uncharacteristic thing that fearless and combative man ever did."

Students of the life of Lincoln have reason to suspect that lapse of time and memory, if not partisan sentiment,

⁵Angle, *Lincoln, 1854-61; Journal*, Illinois State Historical Society, January, 1929.

prompted relators of the "truce" story to color and magnify incidents of the 1854 campaign. It appears from the account of the opposition Whig newspaper in Peoria that Douglas was so hoarse that he could not complete his speech on the night of October 16, and the Whig newspaper of Lacon stated that he was too ill to talk there. Illness prevented him from speaking at Aurora and he returned to Chicago in weakened physical condition.

The Senator rested at his home for more than one week before he resumed his speaking campaign. Lincoln made at least three more speeches before the November election. Neither Lincoln nor Douglas in 1854 charged the other with bad faith. Neither of them in their somewhat acrimonious debates in 1858 complained that his antagonist was party to any broken political truce. If the story were true that a truce existed, and that Douglas violated it, then it is necessary to believe that friends of Lincoln and the alert opposition press knew nothing of it at that time. The Anti-Nebraska newspapers, usually willing to assail Douglas on the slightest pretext, failed in the stories they printed preceding the election of Lincoln to the Presidency to mention any political truce in 1854 or the breaking of such a compact by Douglas. The silence of Lincoln and of Douglas on the subject may prove nothing, but the revelations of a hostile press on the condition of Douglas at Peoria, Lacon and Aurora, and its subsequent silence on the "breaking" of the "truce" by Douglas seem to place the yarn among the myths of history.

THE MEMOIRS OF JAMES McGRADY RUTLEDGE 1814-1899

With Introduction and Notes by

FERN NANCE POND

James McGrady Rutledge's people were pioneers, founders of New Salem. There he lived, and there he was on that eventful day when Abraham Lincoln's boat lodged on the dam in the Sangamon River.

Ann Rutledge was his first cousin, and her father, James Rutledge, owned the village tavern. While Lincoln boarded at the tavern, McGrady Rutledge was a frequent visitor. There McGrady mingled with the guests, admired his charming cousin Ann, had access to the kitchen cupboard, and on many nights shared the shuck bed with the long-legged Lincoln.

In my youthful admiration for Abraham Lincoln, McGrady Rutledge was for me the connecting link between young Lincoln and Ann; for he was then perhaps the only living person who knew the true story of their romance.

As I grew older I realized that my youthful eyes looked upon a man who had seen the shy glances which passed from man to maiden; that he had known and understood that silent language which expresses the ecstasy of the universe; that he had later indulged in the memory of the messages he had whispered, first to one and then to the other, that he had seen Lincoln and Ann Rutledge falling in love.

James McGrady Rutledge, a descendant of that Edward Rutledge who signed the Declaration of Independence, was born in Henderson County, Kentucky, on September 29, 1814. He was a son of William and Susannah Cameron Rutledge.

Late that same year, the father, William, with his two brothers, James and Thomas, and their families, settled in White County, Illinois, where descendants of Thomas Rutledge continue to reside.

About the year 1826, William Rutledge, his brother James and their families, with John M. Cameron and family, migrated to Sangamon County, Illinois, settling in the Concord neighborhood, about five miles north of the present city of Petersburg. Our subject was then about twelve years of age, and he lived there, at New Salem and at Petersburg, while growing to young manhood.

On August 19, 1841, James McGrady Rutledge was married to Miss Margaret C. Harris. They became the parents of seven sons and seven daughters. Four of their children—David, Samuel, Matilda and Robert—died in childhood, and they rest in the Abraham Goodpasture burying ground (erroneously called the "Concord Cemetery"), north of Petersburg, the same one in which Ann Rutledge was originally buried. A son, John Will Rutledge, was drowned in the La Platte River, in Nebraska, in the summer of 1862. Their other children were: Ann Eliza Rutledge (Mrs. Edward Traylor), Mary Rutledge (Mrs. John Moore), James B. Rutledge, Thomas Harris Rutledge, Lura Rutledge (Mrs. Milton Cominger), Harriet Rutledge (Mrs. Andrew Park), Catharine Susannah Rutledge (Mrs. J. H. Clary), Harvey E. Rutledge, and Emma Rutledge (Mrs. Henry S. Houghton). All are now deceased except the last four, all of whom reside at Petersburg, Illinois.

Mrs. Emma Rutledge Houghton has in her possession the manuscript in which her father, at an advanced age, depicted some interesting personalities and incidents of early days. Mrs. Houghton is a great aunt of the writer, and it was this relationship which made the following note available.

At the time of Ann's death, August 25, 1835, McGrady Rutledge was nearly twenty-two years of age. He was only one year younger than she, and there had existed between them a camaraderie which caused her death to make a deep and lasting impression upon him. He retained a distinct memory of her funeral, and remembered that the sermon was preached by his uncle, the Reverend John M. Cameron, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister. He remembered, too, that there had been a general understanding in the Rutledge family that Lincoln and Ann would be married after each had obtained "a little more education."

When in 1890, the idea of removing Ann's remains to a cemetery on the outskirts of Petersburg was conceived, none of the descendants of James Rutledge, Ann's father, was living in Menard County.

Ann's sister, Nancy Rutledge Prewitt (1821-1901), then living in Birmingham, Iowa, was consulted, and she wrote to her cousin, McGrady Rutledge, that she wished the remains of her sister to remain in the old family burying ground.

Whether Ann's brother, William B. Rutledge (1825-1917), and her sister, Sarah Rutledge Saunders (1829-1922), were consulted regarding the matter is not known to this writer.

At that time descendants of William Rutledge were living in the county and the plan was discussed with them.

James McGrady Rutledge opposed the removal of Ann's remains. He held that they should "stay where those of her family were buried," and that, since Abraham Lincoln had married and had a family, his "affair with Ann should be left alone."

It was stated that if the Rutledge relatives did not acquiesce, the removal would take place notwithstanding.

Because he had attended the burial service of his cousin, McGrady Rutledge was urged to assist in locating the grave. He went in a sad, reluctant mood, and led the party to two graves, one on either side of the grave of Ann's brother, David H. Rutledge, which was marked by a stone.

According to his statement, the grave accepted as Ann's, on being opened, was found to contain three or four pearl buttons. Ann's sister, Nancy Rutledge Prewitt, remembered that there were pearl buttons on Ann's burial dress.

On the other hand, Samuel Montgomery, an undertaker of Petersburg, who was present, stated in his affidavit made September 3, 1921, and recorded in Menard County Miscellaneous Record G, page 575, that McGrady Rutledge assisted in locating the grave; and that "both graves beside that of David's were opened, and one was found to contain the remains of a small child, while the other contained the remains of a grown person, though not large of stature, and apparently those of a woman. These latter remains were removed as those of Ann Rutledge's and buried in Oakland Cemetery."

During the days succeeding the exhumation, McGrady Rutledge was silent and reflective, frequently remarking to his family that he wished such action had never been taken.

After the re-interment, a native boulder of limestone formation taken from a nearby stream was placed at the

grave with the words: ANN RUTLEDGE. In 1922, Mr. Henry B. Rankin, of Springfield, Illinois, proposed the erecting of a more imposing marker at the grave. He consulted with citizens of Petersburg, and subscriptions were secured from twenty-two descendants of pioneer Menard County families. A large boulder of Extra Dark Quincy (Mass.) Granite was selected, the inscription being cut and the monument placed late that same year.

The poem, "Ann Rutledge," from *Spoon River Anthology* written by Edgar Lee Masters, who spent his boyhood in Menard County, was chosen as the fitting epitaph.

McGrady Rutledge spent more than seventy years of his life in and near Petersburg, where he was respected and beloved. He had experienced the great adventure of pioneering in the ever-expanding West; he had seen New Salem grow from the ground up; he had seen it become literally a deserted village. He knew its citizens — knew them as friends and fellow laborers; he knew their problems, their joys, and their heartaches.

In that small locality where acquaintances were intimate, he knew Abraham Lincoln long before the world recognized him. With friendly eyes he watched Lincoln rise in that steady progression from boatman, clerk, storekeeper, postmaster, surveyor, legislator, lawyer, and congressman, to the Presidency.

James McGrady Rutledge died in April, 1899, having been a keen observer of the marvellous progress of the nineteenth century.

Partial history of James McGrady Rutledge and
my parents.

My mother was born and raised in South Carolina, my father was born and raised in Georgia. I was born in Kentucky, Henderson county, Sept 29, 1814, moved to Illinois in 1816, stayed 2 years in White



SUSANNAH CAMERON RUTLEDGE AND WILLIAM RUTLEDGE
Parents of James McGrady Rutledge

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county, then mooved back to Tenessee, stade there 3 years then mooved back to White County, Ills, staid there 2 years, then mooved north near Springfield, remained there til I was 12 years old, when we moved downd to what is now known as Concord, then a wild Indian country, the old chief indian Shic Shac was in this part of the country. Sangamon county extended to the Illinois river where Havanna is now. This part of the country being the old chiefs hunting ground. He was permitted to stay while he lived with his children as his wife was burried on the Sangamon, he died the winter of the big snow—that was in 1830 and 1831, after his death the spring of 1832 the rest of his family went north where Black hawks tribe was, They were then on rock river and fox river in this state. In the year of 1832 the Black hawk war broke out. I was then 18 years old. I was anxious to go but was prevented by my parents. I remained with my parents til I was 21 years old when father gave me 80 acres of raw land, told me to go to work and improve it, which I did. I fenced 18 acres, broke some of it, built a house and stable, got a family to live in it. I lived with the family and improved things the best I could. Now I was 27 years old when I was married to Miss Margaret C. Harris.¹ To us were born 14 children, 7 sons and 7 daughters.

At the time of the big snow I was 16 years old. I cant describe the troubles I went through during them trying times. I ought to told when we were married. We were married Aug 19, 1841, have lived in the neighborhood until 1889, then mooved to Petersburg, where I still live. I am 84 years old, my wife is 78, both in tolerable health for our age.

My father William Rutledge married Susannah Cammeron.² They was married in Kentucky, by minister James McGrady. They had 12 children.

¹Margaret C. Harris, daughter of John and Mary Harris, born Oct. 8, 1821, is buried in Concord Cemetery north of Petersburg, Ill.

²Susannah Cameron was a sister of John M. Cameron, who with James Rutledge founded New Salem. She died Sept. 8, 1883; buried in Abraham Goodpasture Cemetery north of Petersburg, Illinois, where Ann Rutledge was originally buried.

I was the third child, married in Morgan Co, near Jacksonville, owned a farm in Menard Co. went to housekeeping the 12 of October, 1841. Moved near Concord in 1845, the place now called Uncle George Hudspeth's place.³

At one time I with some others went 10 miles from home to put in some wheat and had to draw straws who would go after the wagon, and it fell to my lot to go and I started out early before day brake and on my way I met 19 dears, was so clost their eyes just glittered, but they just stood and looked at me until I counted them several times, and then as I went farther on I met 2 large wolfs, 1 black and 1 gray, that stoped me and I didn't know what to do. I stood for a moment then took my knife cut a big rosin weed and hit the ground hard with it, then they galoped off to one side, stoped and looked at me again, I repeated the stroke again and they galloped off and lefted me. I made tracks for home.

At one time there was a man by the name of Armstrong who had a wolf trap and caught a black wolf, some of the boys thought they would have some fun so got the wolf out and set the dogs on it, but it was to much for them, it fit them off and got in the crick, would have got away but there come along a man with a large dog. The dog killed it, the man scalped it, rode off with scalp, got \$5.00 for it. The boys did not get the pay but had the fun.

The winter of the deep snow was hard on the wild game, it starved the dears, turkeys and prairie chickens. Peoples stock had to feed on the snow where they would tramp it down, and then tramp a path to water, and if anything got outside of the path they could not go. The snow was 4 feet deep on level. 2 dears come to father's feed lot and stayed, fed with the cattle and

³George Hudspeth came from Monroe County, Alabama, to Sand Ridge about 1823.

sheep. That was a hard winter on man as well as beast. Father gave me some timber to make some rails. We would go out in the deep snow cut the trees down to have them ready to go to work on as soon as we could. One time we cut one tree down had to forks, in one fork was two coons in the other a barrel of honey.

Mother would learn the indian wemon to cook corn pone and hominy, and the white wemen would make the indian wemen wear dresses but they didnt like to weare shoes, would keep their mocksons. With Shick Shacks children I and John A. Clary⁴ would run foot races. Their names were Joe and Antiwine and when they would get beat they would not run again. Shick Shack would sit in the house and talk with father and mother, smoke his long pipe, it was painted striped.

At that time the prairie grass was so high we could not see our cows when they would be clost by, and the prairie wolfs were plenty. Then we would have to hall our wheat to Beardsferry (now Beardstown) 40 miles. I went twice with father to St. Louis, once with oxen 3 yoak large wagon, and next time 4 horses and almost froze to death that time, took flour, bacon and things to sell them, brought back goods to Old Salem, where Uncle Jim Rutledge⁵ and Uncle John Cameron lived. They built the mill, and laid out the town, (water mill). I would hall logs for people to build their houses and for the mill (before the deep snow and after). When I was not halling for the mill I would brake prarie for other people. Broke 20 acres for Peter Brahm.⁶ 3 yoak of oxen was used, called it a prarie team.⁷

Uncle Jim Rutledge had 9 children, 5 daughters and 4 sons. Uncle John Cameron 9 daughters 1 son. They moved to Old Salem in 1827, before the deep snow.

⁴John A. Clary, son of John Clary, founder of Clary's Grove settlement, 1819.

⁵James Rutledge, father of Ann, with his nephew, John Cameron, owned the mill site where they founded New Salem.

⁶Peter Brahm came to Sand Ridge about 1827.

⁷His daughter, Mrs. Emma Rutledge Houghton, recalls that her father spoke of the frequent occasions when his wagons and chains and other tools were cared for by Joshua Miller, the New Salem blacksmith.

Minter Graham⁸ taught school for several years, done the writing, such as deeds. Hill⁹ and McNeal was the merchants. Hill put up a carding mill. John Rutledge¹⁰ a cousin tended the mill. Lincoln came down to Old Salem. He knew how to run a flat boat down the river. And Mr. Offet got Lincoln to run his boat, started to St. Louis with a flat boat of corn but lodged on the dam and staid there for a day or two, that is the first time I ever saw Lincoln. I was with Lincoln at Old Salem for some time, staid where he staid.¹¹ I had 2 yoke of oxen and halled logs for the people to build houses when I had no halling for the mill. Lincoln was a surveyor, he surveyed all the country where Menard County is now, I and Royal Clary¹² was the chain carriers in the settlement where we lived.

One day there was a law suit to be tride. We was surveying that day. I was chain carer, Lincoln said less go to the law suit, so we went, it was a suit of damage brought by a young lady against a young man for refusing to marry her, her name was Sarah, his name was Samuel, the young lady was disgraced. The suit was tride before Mr. Berry.¹³ There was a man by the name of Dickeson in this end of the country, he boarded at Mr. Berry's understood some law, so the father of the young man got Dickeson to help him in the suit as the young man was not 21 years old. Edwards was the step father of the young lady. Edwards got Lincoln to help him. So Lincoln defended the lady. Lincoln had his surveying suit on. He maid a comparison of the 2, he cald the young man a white dress, the young lady a glass bottle, he said you could soil the dress, it could be

⁸Mentor Graham tutored Lincoln in the study of surveying and grammar.

⁹Samuel Hill and John (McNeil) McNamar opened the first store in New Salem in 1829.

¹⁰John Rutledge, son of James Rutledge, and his brother, David H. Rutledge, were in Lincoln's Black Hawk War Company.

¹¹The Rutledge Tavern.

¹²Royal Clary was a private in Lincoln's Black Hawk War Company.

¹³Samuel Berry, uncle of Wm. F. Berry, Lincoln's store partner, was Justice of the Peace, born 1781, died Feb. 10, 1855, buried in Abram Goodpasture Cemetery, north of Petersburg, where Ann Rutledge was originally buried.



JAMES MCGRADY RUTLEDGE



MARGARET HARRIS RUTLEDGE

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made to look well again, but strike a blow at the bottle and it was gon. Now, he said who struck the blow, it was this young man. This was the first case he ever tride. He got \$100 dollars damage for the lady. The father of the young man said it took 2 of the best horses he had to pay for it, then he said it was good as 80 acres of land. They both lived to be over 80 years old, raised good families. So you see I was with Lincoln a good many times. There is a good many things I could tell which I will omit at present.

I must tell of a pecan hunt I was in when I was 17 years old. There is a potion of Sangamon River that is thickley timbered with pecan timber, that potion is cald the pecan bottum. I with some others went pecan hunting, there were in my company 4, we had a wagon and team, there was 6 persons in the other company, we all was in the same settlement, it was bout 7 miles to where the pecans was, when we got there the hole bottom was covered with pecan hunters for miles. So we were discouraged. As I said before there was some of old Shic Shac tribe that had not left the country, they were on the other side of the river, as we were well acquainted with them 2 of the Indian men come over and told us to come over on the north side of the river where they were and told us not to say eny thing to enybody else, the Indian men told us where we could find a ford to cross the river. They told us there were plenty of pecans and easy to get at so we hitched up and started. The company that was with us was 2 young married couples. They brought there wives along. There were good many women on the south side of the river. They could beat the men picken pecans. So when we got redy to cross the river I drove our team. Those Indians shode us where the ford was. We crost but left Sam Hohimer and his wife back. Hadnt noticed them. Father told me to go back after them, but Hohimer said he would carry her over. So he picked her up in his arms, did not come to the ford as he ought. He started straight across, got about two thirds of the way, sunc down in the mud and water,

THE MEMOIRS OF McGRADY RUTLEDGE

but got out, was wet and muddy nearly all over. We struck out for the Indians camp which was quarter of a mil. Going along some of the boys killed a coon, took it to the camp, gave it to the Indians. They skined it, roasted it. It was verry fat. We stopped with the indians 2 nights. Had a fine time. It was 12 oclock before we la down. The next day we went up the river, the trees were loaded. 2 of the Indian women went with us, helpt us to pic til noon. Father told them to pick for themselves. They got a dollar a bushel for all they could pick. They took them over the river in a canoe and sold them to the people. We started from home Monday morning crost the river tuesday evening picked Wendsday, Thursday, Friday, started home Saturday, got about 10 bushel. Filled our cooking vesels with possums, killed some wild turkeys. At that time it was again the law to cut the trees the way we got the pecans. We cut a poll 20 feet long, squarred the but end, skelped the bark of the tree about shoulder high, one of the men took one end on his shoulder, the other man would run 12 or 15 steps, let it come against the tree with such force that it would jar a large tree. The pecans would come with a shower that one could hardly believe. That was the last we ever saw of those indians. The next spring they went north where Black Hawks tribe was.

I will go back to my youthful days when it was customary for every body to use whiskey. At that time the people made corn huskins. They would pull the corn with the shuck on, throw it down on the ground against a log crib that was covered with claboards make a corn huskin take the boards off the crib husk the corn throw the corn in the crib. It was the custom them days to have whiskey at all getherings. When I was 9 or 10 years old my uncle Thomas¹⁴ had a corn huskin, had whiskey of course it ran out. He told bob¹⁵ as he called him, that was my cousin 3 or 4 years older than

¹⁴Thomas Rutledge was the brother of William Rutledge the father of James McGrady Rutledge.

¹⁵Robert Rutledge, son of Thomas Rutledge.

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I was to take old buck that was the name of a horse. He got the horse and I got on behind so we went to the still house cross the creek 2 or 3 miles. Got the whiskey come back. My uncle filed the bottle, told Bob to take the jug put it under the bed. The bed was high enough for him and me to crawl under, so Bob took a tumbler as it was called with shugar. We drank the sweetened whiskey til we was both drunk as we could be. I went out to the loom house, crawled under the loom among the treddles, lay flat on my belley. I was verry sick. I vomited. My mother come took me by the legs, pulled me out, washed me, drenched me with sweet milk.

She thought I would die. It had the same affect on Bob. So that put a end to my whiskey drinking. As I grew older I never used whiskey. Everybody used whiskey to keep off the chils or ague. My father kept it in the house all the time. He would put some tanzy in it. He made us children drink it to keep the ague off. My father's name was William my mothers name was Susannah. Father said I must drink some. I refused. He urged me to drink. Mother would say, Billy, if Mcgrady does not want it dont make him take it. He would say, Susa, he will have the ague if I would not drink it. I told him I would rather be sick than to drink it so I never drink the stuff. I was the healthyst one of the family.

There was a doctor by the name of Allen.¹⁶ He was a eastern man. He got up what was then called a temperance Society. Some people was oposed to it. My father was. I joined it. My father tole me I had signed my liberty away. He said I could never take a dram without teling a lie. I told him I would stick to my promise. I have. There were some others signed when I did, their parents was oposed to it. They broke there pledge and one of them filled a drunkard's grave.

¹⁶Dr. John Allen, a graduate of Dartmouth College, came to New Salem in 1830. He organized the Washingtonian Temperance Society at New Salem, and at least one temperance speech made before the Society is extant, dated February 26, 1834.

I ought to say something about my politics before I close. My first vote for President was for Henry Clay, then a whig. The Republican Party came into existence and I went with them. I had the honor to vote twice for the greatest man that ever lived, Abraham Lincoln. I had a long acquaintance with him. Him and I slept in the same bed while he boarded with my Uncle James Rutledge. While he was boarding there Lincoln became deeply in love with Ann. She was my cousin. Had she lived till spring they were to be married. Ann took sick, died August 25, 1835.

Lincoln took her death verry hard.

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THE LIBRARY OF BARTHELEMI TARDIVEAU¹

Of the early life of Barthélemi Tardiveau little seems to be known. He had for a time lived in Holland. As early as 1778, according to his own statement, he was in America. On the 23 October, 1782, he paid to Gen. George Rogers Clark 70,000 weight of flour for three tracts of land, on Licking Creek, Kentucky River, and Richland Creek. Walker Daniel of Kentucky, writing to the Western Commissioners 3 February, 1783, referred to Captain Tardiveau as the interpreter in an interview between Daniel and Carbonneau, Prothonotary for the Illinois settlements. Tardiveau came into the Illinois Country with Colonel Harmar (arriving at Kaskaskia 17 August, 1787) as interpreter and chief advisor. By Governor St. Clair he was appointed colonel of militia and judge of probate in St. Clair County. Presently he undertook to represent before Congress the claims of the French and the Americans of the Illinois. He was successful in having passed, between 1788 and 1791, three laws in favor of his clients, which granted 400 acres to every head of family resident in the Illinois in 1783, 100 acres to each person enlisted in the militia there in 1790, and satisfied the Americans in their claims for concessions actually improved. (It was, of course, the land speculators who benefited by this legislation.) Shortly after this he moved across the Mississippi to New Madrid and engaged for a time in the Mississippi River trade with Pierre Men-

¹This list forms part of a study I am making of the literary culture of the French settlements of the Illinois Country.

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ard of Kaskaskia and others. This enterprise apparently failed. In 1793 Tardiveau is to be found associated with Genet's scheme and was appointed chief interpreter. He died in New Madrid in February, 1801.²

The record of the books which he possessed at the time of his death is to be found in the inventory and record of sale of his estate.³ Inventory was made 23 Feb., 1801, and sale (of books) held 17 March. His 60-90 [?] volumes brought a total of 48 piastres 7 reaux. It is interesting to note that his books, though few in number, indicate the extent of his education; he had apparently some acquaintance with five languages: Greek, Latin, French, Spanish, and English. The inventory descriptions, as usual, are irritatingly brief.

deux dictionnaires grecs et latins cinq autres volumes grecs et latins avec un autre volume latin [Valued at 1 piastre 4 reaux. Sold to Louis Polard for 2 p. 5 r.]

un dictionnaire et une grammaire anglais et espagnol [Valued at 2 p. Sold to Jean Lavallée for 6 p. 4 r.]

le dictionnaire de Johnson en Anglais deux volumes en 4° [Valued at 4 p. Sold to Mesnard (Pierre Ménard) for 6 p. 4 r.]

un traite d'agriculture en Anglais un dictionnaire de Commerce 2 volumes in f°. [Valued at 3 p. Sold to Mesnard for 1 p.—first item only.]

L'Illiade de Pope deux volumes deux° du Capitan et Dⁿ Rion [?] [In the sale-list this item reads:

"L'Illiade de Pope et Capit° Rivers 4 volumes anglais." Valued at 3 p. Sold to D. Gray for 4 p.]

²Clarence W. Alvord, *Cahokia Records 1778-1790* (*Illinois Historical Collections*, II), pp. cxxxvi-cxl; Alvord, *Kaskaskia Records* (*Ill. Coll.*, V), 451-453; James Alton James, *George Rogers Clark Papers* (*Ill. Hist. Coll.* XIX), pp. 141, 193. Consult indices.

³*New Madrid Archives* (MSS., Missouri Historical Society) No. 1300 (Vol. VIII:245ff.).

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dix volumes tant relier que broché de divers ouvrages anglais [Valued at 1 p. 4 r.]

six volumes des Oeuvres de Montesquieu [Valued at 3 p. Sold to Mesnard for 7 p.]

trois volumes in 12 Brochés administration de finance par Necker [Necker] [Valued at 1 p. Sold to Polard for 6 r.]

trois volumes in 8° du Cultivateur americain [Valued at 2 p. Sold to Mesnard for 3 p.]

Grammaire francaise de Restaut [Described in sale-list as "un V^e." Valued at 6 r. Sold to Cerré for 5 r.]

deux volumes du droit francais et un de teneur de livres [Valued at 1 p. 4 r. Sold to Pierre Antoine Laforge for 9 p.]

seize volumes détachés [?] de divers ouvrages [Valued at 1 p. 4 r.]⁴

divers papiers de musique [Sold to Lavallée for 1½ r.]

deux cartes de Geographie [Sold to Charpentier.]

seize volumes Anglais divers ouvrages [Sold to Gray for 1 p. 4 r.]⁵

le dictionnaire deux volumes in f° de Neilson [Sold to Lavallée for 2 p. 1 4.]⁶

dix volumes francais [Sold to Mesnard for 2 p. 4 r.]
un livre de musique [Sold to Lavallée for 2 r.]

John Francis McDermott.

Department of English,
Washington, University,
St. Louis, Missouri.

⁴All preceding items drawn from inventory. Remaining items appear in sale-list only.

⁵May be same as last book-item in inventory.

⁶May be the dictionary inventoried with the "traite d'agriculture."

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SPANISH AMBITIONS IN THE ILLINOIS COUNTRY, 1782

It is a well-known fact that at the end of the American Revolution Spain hoped to get part, if not all, of the east bank of the Mississippi, and the Spanish officials in Louisiana shared her ambition, welcoming even a rumor of a possibility of realizing it. A letter from Governor Estevan Miró of Louisiana to Bernardo de Gálvez, Captain-general of Louisiana and the Floridas, dated November 20, 1782, of which the following is a translation of the Spanish original which is found in the Archivo Nacional de Cuba (Floridas, legajo 3, no. 8) is an example:

Most Excellent Sir:

My Dear Sir: according to what Lieutenant-Colonel Don Francisco Cruzat writes me the Americans have totally abandoned the Eastern Posts of Illinois. For this reason I can do no less than represent to Your Excellency the utility and convenience that would result to the state and to the Province if in view of the representation that may be made to His Majesty the cession of these Posts to our Crown is obtained from the American Congress. I give Your Excellency notice of what I know in order that you may take the measures that you judge to be opportune.

God Our Lord keep Your Excellency many years.

New Orleans, November 20, 1782.

Most Excellent Sir

I kiss the Hand of Your Excellency
your most attentive servant

Estevan Miró

Most Excellent Sir Bernardo de Gálvez

Gálvez seems not to have taken any action on this suggestion from Miró. He was not averse to acquiring more territory for Spain, of course, but he was at that time occupied with an attempt to obtain for the Crown what was thought to be more valuable than Illinois, viz. the British West Indies. It would have made no difference in the history of Illinois, however, if Gálvez had followed up Miró's suggestion by making a recommendation to His Majesty the King of Spain, for ten days after the above letter was written the preliminary treaty between Great Britain and her revolted colonies was signed and the Mississippi became the western boundary of the new nation.

There was still time to have changed the boundary before peace was finally made if the fortunes of war and diplomacy had not begun to turn against Spain and her ally, France, but Miró's proposal would not have been a satisfactory basis for the Spanish claims, for, although at the time Cruzat wrote to him most of the troops had been withdrawn from Vincennes and other posts of Illinois, there was no abandonment of the territory. Civil government had taken the place of military. Miró's suggestion to obtain the cession from the American Congress would also have been a recognition of American ownership by right of conquest, and Spain herself made a similar claim to this territory based on the expedition of Captain Eugenio Pierro to St. Joseph in January of 1781, even though the expedition returned immediately to St. Louis from whence it had started.

Interest in this letter lies in the fact that it shows Lieutenant-Governor Francisco Cruzat of St. Louis and Don Estevan Miró, the acting Governor of Louisiana, grasping at this straw of a possibility to realize their desire.

D. C. Corbitt.

Candler College, Puentes Grandes, Havana, Cuba.

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CENTENNIAL AND HOME-COMING CELEBRATION COE TOWNSHIP, ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

At the annual town meeting in April, 1935, it was voted to celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the first settlement of Coe Township by the white man. The committee selected to be in charge was John Winterfeldt, George Coe, Mrs. Andrew Kleist, Lloyd Walther and Louis D. Hauberg, chairman. After several meetings of the committee the program was outlined and executed as follows:

In the forenoon of August 16, we assembled to unveil a marker designating the old stage road from Rock Island to Dixon. This road was established over one hundred years ago and traverses our township northeast by southwest. Mr. C. J. Golden presided at the ceremonies. Talks were given by W. H. Ashdown, who traversed the original road when a boy; John Hahn, Louis D. Hauberg and John H. Hauberg. The federal land office was located at Dixon, and a fort and trading post at Rock Island (Stephenson). This was one of the early roads of the state and much in use, especially in times of high water, when travelers from Galena to Rock Island were obliged to take this, the middle crossing road. This term, "middle crossing," refers to the higher ground in the Meredosia bottom which divides the waters between the Mississippi and Rock Rivers. This marker was unveiled by Miss Marjorie Coe.

We then drove to the spot where our first settler located. Mr. and Mrs. John Walker and family, originally from Kentucky, moved to Wayne County, Illinois, and later to Coe Township, in Section 36, just one hundred years ago. Miss Mable Walker, a great-granddaughter of our pioneer settler, presided; Reverend Butler offered prayer; Sheldon Walker related a history of the Walker family and the set-

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tling of the clan; and John Walker, a great-great-grandson, gave an historical reading pertaining to our pioneers' coming. This marker was unveiled by Miss Ellen Walker. Mr. Walker helped to organize Coe's first church, operated a water-power sawmill on Canoe Creek, was county road viewer and county coroner. A group of old songs was rendered by Mrs. Loretta Mummy, eighty years young, and her two children Holms and Verna, to the accompaniment of a parlor organ. A basket dinner was next in order.

The afternoon program consisted of reminiscences, talks, singing and games. An exhibit of interesting relics of pioneers was on display, but rain prevented an old fashioned singing and spelling bee. About 200 people attended these festivities.

On August 27 Fairfield was the scene of the program. In the morning a marker commemorating Coe's Civil War record and that of the family of Adam Ziegler was unveiled. The Zieglers had seven sons who volunteered their services in behalf of the Union. All saw active service, were honorably discharged and returned home safe and sound. Coe had over fifty men in this conflict. Mr. Edward Ziegler presided on this occasion. Prayer was offered by Reverend D. C. Ellenwood; a grandson, Mr. Earl Wynn, related a history of the Adam Ziegler family. Mrs. Hartwell (Ziegler) Goodrich unveiled this marker.

Following the noon-day basket dinner a large crowd gathered to see the parade with the following entries: Color Guard from Coe-Lamb Post No. 421, Band, Coe Township Board, Ex-Supervisors of Coe, oldest residents past and present, float of the Bethel Sunday School, float of the Fairfield Sunday School; a Century of Progress in the Evolution of Travel—pedestrian, saddle horse and rider, team and wagon, road cart, single top buggy, surrey and team, oldest car in the township and late models; the Evolution of Road

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Building—man with spade, wagon and dump boards, plow and scraper, horse-drawn grader, present equipment—caterpillar tractor, grader, bulldozer, power-lift scrapers and truck. This parade occasioned much comment.

The marker ceremony this day was at the cemetery, the parade taking place in the road between the church and school house. Our next program, held in the school yard, began with band music by the Muscatine Band, and was featured by an address, "The Pioneers of Coe Township," by the Rev. W. W. Woodburn. This was an exceptionally fine address. Thus ended the afternoon festivities. The evening program was held in the church, where John H. Hauberg of Rock Island gave a very interesting illustrated talk showing slides of historical and recreational value.

One of the most outstanding and interesting features of the celebration was an extensive exhibit of photographs and biographies of our early settlers, and antiques and heirlooms from their homes. Over 600 people attended the events of this day and all were enthusiastic over the success of the celebration.

Louis D. Hauberg.

Hillsdale, Illinois.

HISTORICAL NEWS

WANTED: CORRESPONDENTS

From the number of letters received by the Editor, it is evident that a considerable number of readers of the Journal are interested in the Historical News section. In the Editor's opinion, however, the section is far from satisfactory. There must be far more news of historical interest over the State of Illinois than finds its way to these pages. What does appear comes from a clipping service and from the letter of an occasional reader, but the coverage of the clipping service is small, and the letters are all too few.

To make the Historical News section more comprehensive, correspondents are wanted. Is your city, county or township celebrating an anniversary? Has any organization erected a marker, or commemorated an historical event in some other way? Is your historical society meeting regularly? Has anyone in your neighborhood published a book or pamphlet of historical interest? These and similar activities are always reported in the local newspapers. To clip the story and mail it to the Editor of the Journal would require less than five minutes of an individual's time, but if fifty readers would do just this, we should have a record of historical activity in Illinois which in comprehensiveness and enduring value would be beyond comparison with that which we now possess.

The annual meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society will be held at Peoria on Friday and Saturday, May

15 and 16. At this writing the program has not been definitely determined, but there will be an afternoon meeting at Bradley College with papers by Theodore C. Pease of the University of Illinois, Earl W. Hayter of McKendree College and Nell Blythe Waldron of the Illinois State Normal University. There will also be a dinner at the Pere Marquette Hotel, followed by an address of general interest. Conferences of local historical societies and college history teachers are planned. The Society's annual business meeting and the meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Saturday morning. A tour of historic places in Peoria will conclude the meeting.

For a number of years after its organization the Illinois State Historical Society met in different cities of the state each year. Then the practice was discontinued, and all meetings were held in Springfield. The Society's future course with reference to meetings will be determined largely by the attendance at the Peoria meeting and the interest manifested in it.

On Sunday, December 29, 1935, the Quincy *Herald-Whig* celebrated the completion of its first century by issuing a Centennial Number of 152 pages. The *Herald-Whig* is the direct descendant of Adams County's first newspaper, the *Bounty Land Register*, the first number of which was issued April 17, 1835. The Centennial Number contains much interesting and valuable historical material, well illustrated, and also a comprehensive picture of Quincy today.

On January 15, 1836, Richard M. Treadway and Lawson Parks printed the first issue of the Alton *Telegraph*, a small four-page sheet. One hundred years later, to a day, Paul B. Cousley and John D. McAdams, editor and business man-

ager of the *Telegraph*, celebrated the completion of a newspaper's first century by bringing out a centennial edition numbering 128 pages.

Alton's colorful past presented an opportunity of which the editors of the *Telegraph's* centennial edition have taken full advantage. A large number of historical articles, well written and well illustrated, will make this issue a record of permanent value. No less valuable, in the future, will be the extensive survey of present-day Alton which the centennial edition makes available.

On January 16 seven northern Illinois counties—Will, Kane, McHenry, Ogle, Whiteside, Winnebago, and Jo Daviess—reached the century mark, for on that date one hundred years ago they were all created by the Illinois legislature.

In commenting on the passage of the first century, the Joliet *Herald-News* called attention to two other anniversaries of interest to the people of Will County—June 3, the birthday of Dr. Conrad Will, for whom the county was named, and April 30, the ninety-seventh anniversary of the founding of the Joliet *Currier*, the county's first newspaper and the direct ancestor of the *Herald-News*.

On August 6, 7, 8 and 9 the city of Crystal Lake, McHenry County, will observe the completion of its first century. In February, 1836, Bemon Crandall, the first settler, arrived. A parade, a pageant, an old settlers' day, an exhibit of antiques and other special features will mark the centennial observance. Arthur G. Wilmington has been appointed general chairman of the committee on arrangements.

The Montgomery County Historical and Genealogical Society is gathering material for a new and comprehensive

history of the county, and solicits contributions of pertinent historical and biographical material. The society meets twice a month at the public library in Hillsboro.

On January 15 the citizens of Le Roy, McLean County, organized the Le Roy Historical Society and elected officers. A number of committees, charged with developing all phases of the town's history, were appointed. A program of other activities is being formulated.

Folk-Lore from Adams County, Illinois, is the title of a curious and interesting volume just published by the Alma Egan Hyatt Foundation, New York City. In 723 pages the author, Harry M. Hyatt, has gathered nearly 11,000 separate folk-lore items. All were obtained in Adams County, and nearly all within the ten square miles comprising the city of Quincy and its environs. The book contains much curious and amusing material, and will come as a distinct shock to those who believe that man is a rational animal.

The Warder Family in Virginia, Kentucky and Illinois is the title of a recent work by Walter Warder, of Cairo, Illinois. The Warder Family has long been prominent in Southern Illinois, and this study, which includes social history as well as genealogy, is a valuable addition to the bibliography of Illinois history. The author, a prominent attorney, has served in both the House and Senate of the General Assembly.

With the October, 1935, issue the *Illinois Journal of Commerce*, the official organ of the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, commenced a series of articles on famous families of Illinois which has been the subject of much favorable comment. To date the following families have been pre-

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sented: the Perrines of Centralia, by Genevieve F. Perrine; the Deeres of Moline, by Gene Lyons; the Funks of McLean County, by J. L. Hasbrouck; the Munsells of Edgar County, by E. M. Jenison; the Oglesbys of Logan County, by Allyne Carpenter Nugent; the Warders of Southern Illinois, by Oldham Paisley; and the Carrs of Galesburg, by Emil Dalberg. An article on the Hays of Springfield, by Paul M. Angle, will appear in the April number. The articles are primarily biographical instead of genealogical, and are therefore of general interest.

One of the major steps in the pacification and settlement of the Old Northwest was the Treaty of Greenville, concluded between Maj. Gen. Anthony Wayne and the Indians on August 4, 1795. The treaty secured the advantages which Wayne had won in his campaign of 1793-94, which had culminated in the victory of Fallen Timbers, August 18, 1794. By its terms large parts of southern and eastern Ohio were cleared for white settlement, and a number of reservations farther west were made to the United States. Three of these were in Illinois—one at Chicago, including the portage of the DesPlaines River, another at Peoria, and the third at the mouth of the Illinois River.

It is now proposed, by the Greenville Treaty Memorial Association, that a suitable memorial building, honoring General Wayne and emphasizing the importance of the treaty, be erected at Greenville, Ohio. On August 19, 1935, Representative Frank L. Klob of Ohio introduced a resolution for the appropriation of \$250,000 for this purpose. Undoubtedly some action on the resolution will be taken at the present session of Congress. Certainly a great deal of money has been spent for purposes far less worthy.

CONTRIBUTORS

Marshall Smelser, a resident of Quincy, is a student at St. Louis University, where he is specializing in history. Harry E. Pratt, a frequent contributor to the publications of the Society, is a member of the history faculty of Illinois Wesleyan University. Ernest E. East is a member of the staff of the Peoria *Journal-Transcript* and President of the Peoria Historical Society. Mrs. Fern Nance Pond is a resident of Petersburg. She is one of a group of members of the Old Salem Lincoln League, whose tireless efforts have resulted in the authentic refurnishing of the restored village of New Salem.

GEORGE ROGERS CLARK'S RELIEF CLAIMS

By

TEMPLE BODLEY

This article is to tell briefly the story of George Rogers Clark's claims against his mother-state, Virginia. They were for money advancements and debts he incurred as surety for the state to procure supplies to feed, clothe and equip her troops under his command in the West during the Revolution. The services rendered by those troops and the priceless benefits they yielded our nation are presumably known to all.

After Clark's capture of Vincennes both fame and fortune seemed securely his. Young and flushed with success, glorious prospects opened before him of winning Detroit and the Great Lakes and ending Indian warfare. He foresaw the great immigration which would follow his victory and promised to multiply many times the value of his large holdings of western lands. He had been busily securing them for several years before war came to absorb all his time and thought.¹ Hardly had James Harrod founded the first settlement in the rich "Blue Grass Region" of Kentucky before Clark was there, writing his brother Jonathan: "A richer and more beautiful country than this, I believe, has

¹Draper MSS 1 C 4.

never been seen in America yet . . . I am engrossing all the lands I possibly can."²

Many others were doing likewise, for the "land-trade," as it was called, was then the business of paramount interest to most alert men in Virginia and adjoining colonies. In the prosecution of that business Clark had great advantages. Young, strong, an active surveyor, and experienced in the culture and judgment of land, he rapidly secured what he soon afterward declared "an unprecedented quantity of the finest lands in the western country."³

Writing to his father from Kaskaskia, soon after capturing Vincennes, he said:

If Dicky [his young brother] and myself should both be lost in this country, it will be worth seven years' trouble for my brothers to seek after my fortune, which at this time can't be less than twenty thousand pounds sterling, as my success in trade has been equal to that of war. For fear of accidents, I have had records taken of all my papers in the Clearks office of this town.⁴

Such were his bright prospects of fame and fortune when worthless paper money, and the general poverty and demoralization, combined to destroy all his military hopes and to overwhelm and ruin him. When the evil effect of bad money first appeared, in the refusal of the Illinois French to furnish supplies for his proposed march against Detroit, he advanced his available means, strained his credit, and pledged his property to feed and equip his troops. Even more imprudently he afterward endorsed and became personally bound to pay a great number of bills issued in behalf of Virginia for such supplies.

²*Ill. Historical Collections*, VIII, 10.

³Draper MSS L 15.

⁴*Ill. Historical Collections*, VIII, 235.

Such reckless disregard of self-interest by so intelligent a young man, who had been ambitious to win fortune, and with whom forethought and self-restraint were habitual, seems almost incredible. Doubtless it will always seem so to those who cannot envision the supreme importance of the grand achievement he had at heart, or who fail to appreciate his emotional nature. He was in truth full-charged with sentiment—a big-souled young man with the heart of a crusader, fired with patriotic enthusiasm for his country's cause and glad to stake his all for it. This attitude he expressed when, after describing the desperate defense of the little Kentucky forts in 1777, he said the situation there “led me to a long train of thinking, the result of which was to lay aside every private view, engage seriously in the war, and have the interest and welfare of the public my only view, until the fate of the continent should be known.” It is well known how faithfully he adhered to this high resolve, and how he subordinated every personal interest to carry it out. Nor has such patriotic devotion been rare; for all through the history of wars it has been frequently shown. In the recent World War many were the examples of great-souled young men who gladly gave up promising careers and courted hardship and dangers for country, or a great cause. What, more than patriotic devotion, made Clark's case unique, was the immolation he was made to suffer in consequence of it.

More singular, however, than his staking life and fortune for state and country was his abiding faith in Virginia. When her other creditors had lost all confidence in her justice and were clamoring for payment of her debts to them, he is seen attributing her broken promises to pay her debts to him to her financial embarrassments and magnanimously refraining from asking her for a dollar of the many thousands he had advanced for her, or even to pay off the supply

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rials necessary to compose a true narrative of this department.⁶

Aside from his officer's pay and the many unpaid military supply bills for which he had bound himself as the state's endorser, the state owed him for numerous outlays he had made for her.⁷ Of these outlays only two are mentioned in the first of the extant letters passing between him and his brother concerning his claims. One was for his purchase of 70,000 pounds of flour for his needy garrison at the Falls of the Ohio for which he had mortgaged 3,500 acres of his choice lands. The other was for his payment of a state bill for \$3,836.33, specie, which he had endorsed in favor of his worthy Indian agent Geoffrey Linctot to enable him to purchase peltries in preparation for the march on Detroit, for peltries were then commonly used as money in the West. Clark's commissary and quartermaster, Captain Shannon, explained the circumstances under which the bill was issued, and the peltries purchased, as follows:

I had Col. Clark's orders to draw on him for any supplies purchased for the use of the troops . . . as will appear in my orderly book now in possession of the Governor and Council. Paper money being of no account, these peltries were bought up to establish a fund to purchase provisions for the troops . . . for an expedition was then proposed by Col. Clark against Detroit.

Shannon further explained that the peltries were bought at the lowest obtainable prices and were used to purchase necessary provisions for the troops. Linctot, having tried in vain to get the state to pay the bill, presented it to Clark who paid him its amount with interest and included it in his account against the state.

⁶Ignorant of these outlays and endorsements, many writers have assumed that his claims against the state were for his officer's pay only.

⁷Draper MSS 53 J 90.

His brother Jonathan, during a number of years, attended the Assembly sessions at Richmond for long times endeavoring to get the accounts settled, but to no purpose. Year after year the Assembly, on various pretexts, evaded settlement. In December, 1791, he wrote George Rogers the following letter:

Richmond Dec 1791

Dr Brother

I am sorry to inform you that the whole of your claims against the state are by the Assembly rejected.

The claim as to commutation is left to the Court of Appeals at present, but there is now a bill before the House to explain the law which gives that to you, and what manner it will be explained is uncertain; perhaps it may be rejected. If it should not, I am suspicious it will not be made to the interest of many in your line.

The Assembly appears to me to be determined to let no money go out of the Treasury.

Your claim for to be paid for the flour you purchased for the state from Tardiveau would scarcely be heard; and as to payment for the bills drawn by Shannon, it was voted reasonable by the committee, but a final majority in the House was against the payment. Some men doubted as to its being specie; some said it ought to have been presented sooner; and some could not, or would not, understand how peltries could be necessary to supply an army with provisions. But I believe the greater part of those against you voted from a principle of parsimony.

Your friends Messrs Thruston and Campbell did everything in their power. I believe Thruston could not possibly have interested himself more if the business had been for himself.

I shall keep your discharge, and, if the Assembly does nothing, it is generally supposed the Court of Ap-

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peals will be in your favor; and, as far as they give their opinion I will apply your warrants.

I think you had best get Langtot's receipt for the money you paid for the bills — mentioning the kind of money and warrants you paid him; and perhaps you had best get his affidavit. Get Shannons affidavit of the kind of money the bill was drawn for, some person's affidavit as to the currency of peltries in that country, and perhaps you may have it in your power to prove the application of those very peltries, and get affidavits as to any other circumstances in this and the flour business which you may think necessary to convince the Assembly, beyond any possibility of a doubt, of the injury they are doing you. Send them with a memorial stating the particular facts and I will (if living and able to do so) attend the next Assembly; and I flatter myself I shall have better success than with the present one.

I know it will be very disagreeable to be thus obligated to repeat your application; but the sum is a large one, and a just one, and you must put up with the disagreeable manner you may have to take to obtain it.

It is well, if you present another petition . . . to prove the situation of the army under your command, as to provisions, when you purchased the flour of Tardiveau, and whether he would let the commissary have any until you gave your obligation for it.

My family were well when I left home; but I have been here the greater part of the Assembly. All our friends are well, and I flatter myself this will find you and the rest of our friends in Kentucky enjoying every felicity to be had or expected; and with the com'ts of the approaching season, Dr Brother

Yr Mo Aff

Jona Clark^s

^sDraper MSS 53 J 90.

Of course the Assembly members who "could not, or would not, understand how peltries could be necessary to supply an army with provisions," were merely pretending ignorance to avoid payment of General Clark's claim. Those who said the flour claim "ought to have been presented sooner" were undoubtedly informed that his claim account had actually been presented to the state nearly ten years before and approved by its commissioners of western accounts;⁹ but the Assembly would never have it settled, or the amounts due him paid.

Nor was that the first account he rendered the state, for he had presented one in 1780, supported by thousands of his original vouchers. They were receipted for by the auditor, but lost by him when Benedict Arnold invaded Virginia in 1781, and burned the public buildings at Richmond. But the accounts and vouchers were never destroyed. Instead they remained amongst the auditor's papers for 133 years until finally discovered in 1913 in a dusty basement of the auditor's office.

Meanwhile, his original vouchers all lost, General Clark had again to restate his account as best he could, and then be told "it ought to have been presented sooner."

Replying (May 11, 1792) to his brother's letter, General Clark said:

I wrote you on the subject of Langtots's bill. It was settled in Shannon's accounts when he was on the Assembly, which may appear in the Auditor's office, and a bill passed the house for a settlement of those accounts. (The bill I have seen myself.) This I have from Capt. Shannon who hath been in the woods surveying all spring, but is to meet me next court on that and other business. If you should be in Richmond pray

⁹*Virginia State Library Western Commissioner's Report, Ill. Papers.*

examine and perhaps the matter may be easily settled, as I don't know where the doubt lies. It is as just as the book we swear by.

As to the flower [flour] account, it is a shame among other things. I never could, until the time I did, get this business arranged so as to lay it before the Assembly with the same propriety; and for [it] to say it ought to have been done sooner is curious.

Why did they not do me justice at first and enable me to pay for and take up these accounts sooner? I have given the states half the territory they possess and for them to suffer me to remain in poverty in consequence of it will not redound much to their honor hereafter.¹⁰

The half-pay "commutation" mentioned in Jonathan's letter was one of the many partial repudiations by Congress and states of their debts to soldiers for military services. By technical rulings of the courts, even such half-pay was denied to Clark and his men, because they were held to have "embodied for a special service." That their "special service" was far more arduous and dangerous, and infinitely more fruitful for the state and nation than the service of any other equal body of troops engaged in the Revolutionary War, was apparently unappreciated, or simply ignored.

In June, 1793 Jonathan wrote again to his brother:

I am very sorry to inform you that the determinations of the Court of Appeals have been very unfavorable to the Troops serving in the State Line. There are very few indeed that are by the decision entitled to the half-pay. There seems now to be very little prospect of getting it. A petition will be presented to the next Assembly; but from what past the last assembly, I fear nothing will be had from thence.

¹⁰English's *Conquest of Northwest*.

With respect to your claim which was rejected the last fall, I should be glad you would collect what proof you possibly can & send it with your papers. I think your success would be better than it was last fall. I know that many of those who then voted against your claim now think they did wrong. I should be glad to make another trial for you.¹¹

Three more years followed with a succession of petitions and efforts to get the Assembly to have General Clark's account settled, but nothing was accomplished. Then, in 1796 (fifteen years after he submitted his first account and vouchers to the state and they were lost by the Auditor) his brother wrote him that he had employed John Marshall, afterward chief justice, to bring suit against the state, and said Marshall was sure the suit would be successful.¹² Despite all efforts to get the suit decided, delay followed delay until seven years later when, in 1802, Jonathan wrote that it had been lost.¹³

In his reply General Clark wrote:

"I have lost all prospect of getting my just claims from Virginia. I content myself with viewing their mighty court with contempt."¹⁴

This was unjust to the court. His mistreatment was not from the court, but from successive Assembly majorities. His brother realized this and wrote him:

"I do not believe there is a more honest, nor a more impartial court in the Union than the Court of Appeals of Virginia."¹⁵

The rank injustice General Clark received from the Assembly was made accusingly plain by the account which it

¹¹Draper MSS 53 J 93; 56 J 29.

¹²*Ibid.*

¹³*Ibid.*, 56 J 53.

¹⁴Oct. 14, 1802; Draper MSS 2 L 53.

¹⁵*Ibid.*, 55 J 53.

caused Virginia to render against the United States for the expenses she had incurred in reducing the British posts and acquiring the territory north of the Ohio. Those expenses the United States had agreed to reimburse Virginia in consideration of her cession of that great territory. In the account of them which the state rendered to Congress, and demanded that the United States should pay, *she listed all the debts Clark had claimed to be due him and declared them just ones incurred by her!* In other words the Assembly repudiated them in answer to his appeal for payment of them, but set them up as just ones in the state's own account against the United States!

Discreditable, however, as was the conduct of the Virginia Assembly majorities in evading payment of his confessedly just claims, even more discreditable was the evasion by Congress of the obligation of the United States to reimburse Virginia's expenses incurred in winning the Northwest Territory, including those claims of General Clark. By her cession of the Territory Virginia gained nothing, while the United States acquired a vast and priceless empire. Certainly the reimbursement should have been promptly made, and upon the most liberal principles. The account Virginia rendered Congress was only for about a million dollars. Had it been paid in full the United States would have acquired some one hundred and eighty million acres of its most valuable lands for a trifle over half a cent an acre, or one hundred and eighty acres for a single dollar; and this only for the lands ceded. For the hardships and life-loss during the seven years of Virginia's desperate warfare to win the territory, she and her people were to receive nothing.

As directed by the deed of cession, Congress and Virginia each appointed a commissioner to adjust the reimbursement

account. Unfortunately for the national honor, and unfortunately for General Clark, Congress chose as its commissioner a Connecticut pettifogger, one John Pierce. His whole policy — he called it “principle” — was to cut down Virginia’s claim in every possible way, utterly regardless of what was fair or even honest. By insisting upon preposterous demands for what he was informed and knew were unprocurable evidences of the most minute details of her expenses, and by contesting even the plainest proofs of her actual and necessary military outlays, Pierce made any fair adjustment of the reimbursement account impossible. As prerequisites, he demanded not only detailed items of all Virginia’s purchases of military supplies, but proof that each and every article of clothing purchased and every ration was needed and actually issued to the troops — particularizing names, days, amounts and cost. Furthermore he demanded proof that the cost of each article purchased was reasonable, although he was told and well knew that, when the purchases were made, chaotic financial conditions, widely varying prices, the confusion of warfare and the lack of competent clerks, and even of paper and ink, made the keeping of such minute accounts often impossible.

Pierce rejected altogether proofs of Virginia’s expenses incurred for Clark’s very necessary and serviceable expeditions against the Shawnees in 1780 and 1782, and also expenses incurred to maintain the all-important garrisoned fort at Louisville by the Falls of the Ohio. He did this notwithstanding clear and uncontradicted proof that the outlays were necessary to prevent the British from recovering the ceded country north of the Ohio. His pretense was that the expeditions and fort were only designed for the protection of Kentucky. It was the irony of Clark’s fate that, after being abused during the war, by some of the Kentucky people for main-

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taining his fort at the Falls, because they said it was *not* calculated to defend Kentucky, Pierce rejected all outlays to maintain it because, he said, it was maintained for that purpose only. Yet he was informed and well knew that throughout the war Kentucky was Clark's base of operations and the reservoir from which he drew his troops which kept the British from recovering the ceded territory north of the Ohio.

Virginia's commissioner, Colonel Heth, was amazed and infuriated by Pierce's pettifoggery, and, almost in so many words, charged him with trying to rob Virginia of her plain rights under her cession deed. Their hot written contentions appear in the secret archives of the United States Department of State.¹⁶

In Virginia indignation was intense over the threatened rejection of nearly all the state's just claim for reimbursement. A committee of eminent citizens, headed by Col. George Mason, sent the commissioners a hot protest. They asserted that the plain intent of Virginia's cession deed was that she "should be reimbursed the full amount" of her actual expenses. They pointed out that when she incurred those expenses she was sorely impoverished and had every motive of self-interest to reduce them as far as possible; and that the expenses were incurred when there was not the least expectation of reimbursement from Congress. They hotly denounced Pierce's pretended "principles" for settling their state's claim and declared:

Unless Congress will direct their commissioner to admit such principles in the settlement of the account as will clearly lead to reimburse Virginia the amount she

¹⁶U. S. Dept. of State, Bureau of Indexes and Rolls 9482. (Transcripts are in Author's MSS. "R notes" pp. 595-698.) I must here record my obligation to the late U. S. Secretary of State, Honorable Philander Knox, for making an exception to the department rule by giving me complete freedom to examine and take copies from those records.

has actually and bona fide expended and paid for the conquest of protection of the ceded Northwest Territory, she will withhold all monies on the requisition of Congress until such [expenses] shall have been reimbursed.¹⁷

They went much further. They said Pierce's "principles" of settlement would only give Virginia "a pittance not worth her accepting," but "*may bring into doubt the validity of the Deed of Cession.*"

This hardly veiled threat of Virginia to claim annulment of her cession deed might well have led to momentous consequences. The main consideration for her cession and the only one mentioned in her deed of cession was the promise of Congress to make that reimbursement. If then fair reimbursement was refused Virginia could well assert both her legal and moral right to treat her cession as void. With the willing support of her deeply interested and militant western people, she could doubtless have successfully defied any effort of Congress to wrest the ceded territory from her. No doubt had Virginia shown herself firmly resolved to do that, other states would have supported her and Congress would quickly have agreed upon a fair reimbursement. Unfortunately for Clark and her other western creditors, however, Virginia only threatened. The unspeakable Pierce was not fazed by her threat, nor was Congress. For years afterward Virginia repeatedly tried to get a settlement of her reimbursement claim, but in vain.

Had Virginia been promptly and fairly reimbursed she could hardly have refused to pay over to General Clark the sums she received from the United States on account of his claims against her. Had she done so, although his former large estate was irretrievably gone, he would at least have

¹⁷*Ibid.* Also State Library Box Executive Communications, Oct. 1787-Jan. 1788. Author's italics.

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been relieved from suits to compel him to pay the state's debts, and from the constant threat of a debtor's prison. He would have been free to earn money and accumulate a new estate. He was fated, however, never to enjoy such freedom, but to remain throughout life bound and writhing like Prometheus.

Not until nearly fifty years after Virginia first rendered her reimbursement account, and not until long after General Clark's death, did Congress provide for paying any part of it, and then only a very small part. In 1832 it passed an Act¹⁸ to pay the state the amounts of *judgments* which had been rendered against her in favor of the officers of some eight different Virginia state-line regiments and corps, and amongst them the officers of Clark's "Illinois Regiment." But he had never obtained any such judgment. A stranger, however, was appointed administrator of his estate and managed to get a small part of the general's claim paid by the Virginia government out of the funds it had received from the United States. Part of this sum the administrator paid in dribblets to some of Clark's numerous surviving relatives, and then became insolvent.¹⁹ This was all that was ever paid on account of General Clark's large and just claims against the state. For his officer's pay he was indeed granted a considerable tract of indifferent land in extreme western Kentucky, but nearly all of that was seized to pay the state debts for which he had imprudently bound himself.

In marked contrast with the niggardly treatment of Virginia's reimbursement claim, and of Clark's old-age prayer

¹⁸*U. S. Statutes at Large*, IV, 563.

¹⁹The course of administration appears in the records of a suit in the Louisville chancery court showing the administrator received about \$25,000. Extracts are given by English in his *Conquest of the Northwest*, 1123 ff.

to Congress for enough of its waste land anywhere in the Northwest Territory to relieve him from the state debts which the United States had assumed, was the munificent treatment which Congress accorded to Connecticut's claim to lands there. That state had taken no part in winning the territory. Indeed, like most other northern states, she had done much to prevent Virginia from winning it.²⁰ She had nothing better than a plainly baseless charter claim to any part of it.²¹ In 1786, however, the expiring Continental Congress made her what was in reality a free gift of millions of acres in the so-called "Western Reserve" in northern Ohio, including the site of Cleveland. It was described as extending from Pennsylvania westward 120 miles between latitudes 40° and 42° 2', and was supposed to contain about six million acres. Much of it, however, proved to be in Lake Erie, so the land area contained about three and a half million acres.²² This area was considerably larger than the state of Connecticut. Of the land thus given away to Connecticut one ninety-fourth part would have sufficed to give Clark all he had prayed Congress for — not as a gift, but to relieve him from Virginia's debts which the United States had agreed to pay.

²⁰The western charter claims of various states are treated at length in the author's *History of Kentucky Before the Louisiana Purchase in 1803*.

²¹*Ibid.* and in next note. Also Grayson to Madison May 28, 1786, *Writings of Madison*, XIV, 51.

²²Winsor's *Western Movement*, 265-6; Johnson's *Connecticut*, 282. The latter author relies on flat assertion to support Connecticut's charter claim. Her charter grant was only of territory within the previous basic charter grant of New England which expressly provided that it should not include any of the earlier charter grant to Virginia which included the whole Northwest Territory. In contending with Pennsylvania for the Wyoming region (which lay *east* of Virginia's charter territory) Connecticut claimed her earlier charter grant of the region could not be impaired by the later grant of it to Pennsylvania; but when she came to claim western lands within Virginia's earlier charter grant, conveniently ignored Virginia's earlier right.

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With a large part of the "Western Reserve" lands, Connecticut reimbursed her citizens who had lost by British depredations during the Revolution. With the remainder she created a permanent school fund which (after nearly a hundred and fifty years of drafts upon its proceeds) is said now to yield her *annually* some \$50,000 — a yearly sum equal to five per cent on the reimbursement claim of Virginia for her cession of the whole Northwest Territory!

THE OTHER END OF THE GREAT SAUK TRAIL

By

HARRY L. SPOONER

One of the oldest thoroughfares in the United States, and quite likely the oldest one in Illinois, is what is known as the "Great Sauk Trail," or the "Sauk and Fox Trail." Starting at the mouth of Rock River at its confluence with the Mississippi, it ran up the south bank of the Rock for a short distance, then took a south-easterly course across central Henry and Bureau counties, touched the old Indian village of Kaskaskia near modern Utica, crossed the Fox River near Ottawa, ran up the north bank of the Illinois through Morris, crossed the Des Plaines near Joliet, went east through Chicago Heights, crossed the Illinois-Indiana state line at Dyer, continued east through Valparaiso, and then took a north-easterly course through Rolling Prairie and LaPorte, crossed the St. Joseph River near Niles, and continued east and north through Mottville, Sturgis, Coldwater, Jonesville, Clinton, and Ypsilanti to Detroit, where it crossed the Detroit River and followed down its bank eighteen miles to the old village of Amherstburg at its mouth.

After it rounded the head of Lake Michigan, the trail was traveled by others than the Sauk. The Foxes, the Winnebago, the Miami, the Potawatomi, and other tribes coming

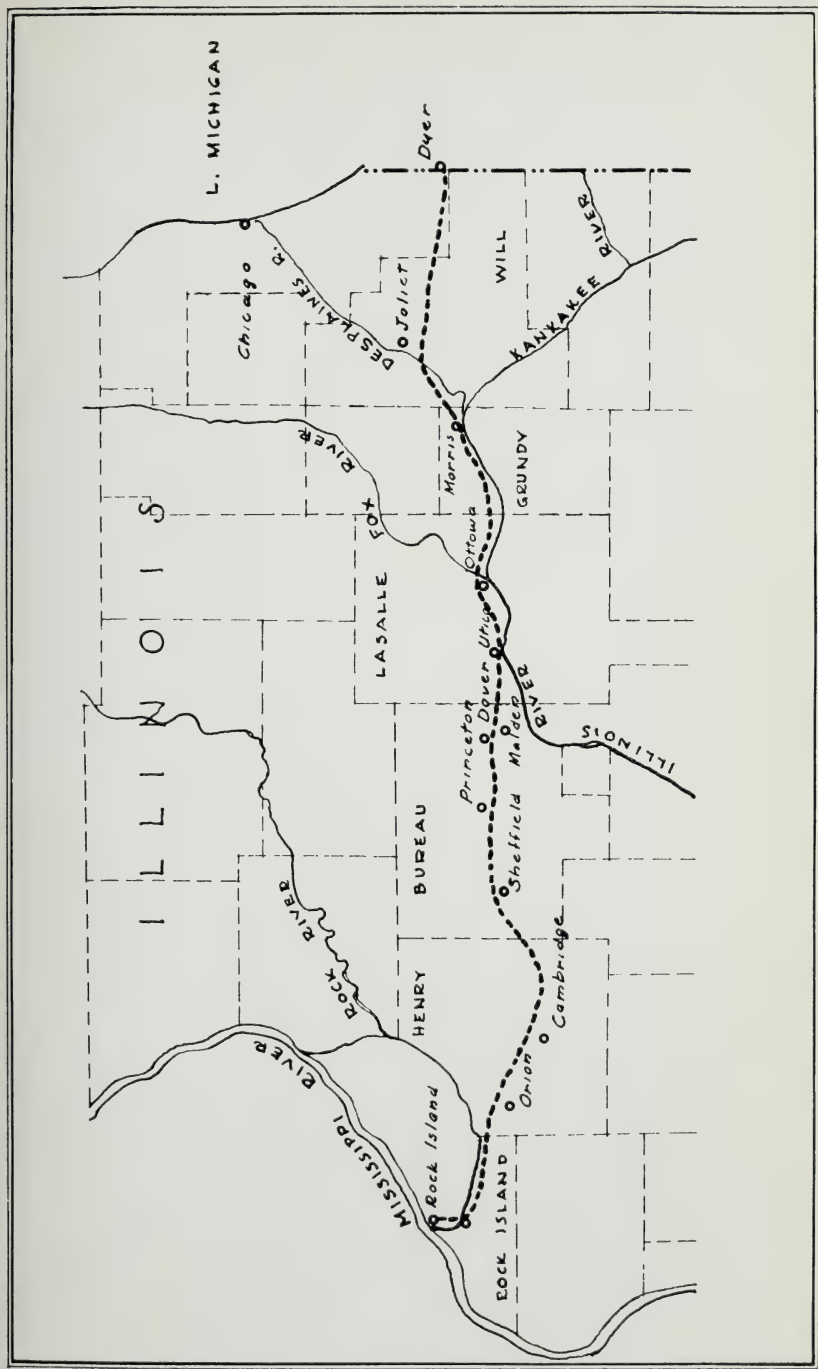
OTHER END OF THE GREAT SAUK TRAIL

down the west side of Lake Michigan and rounding the south end of the lake had for ages traveled over this path. These people from the Wisconsin country and the vicinity of Chicago followed a trail which hugged the lake shore as far as Michigan City and then took a cross trail that joined the original Sauk trail at LaPorte.

The origin of the old trail is lost in the mists of antiquity, having been traveled from time immemorial. Originally called "The Great Trail," it received the name by which it is now known from the fact that the Sauk and Fox Indian tribes, after locating near what is now the city of Rock Island, traveled it in their annual pilgrimages to Amherstburg. These pilgrimages were made to secure the annual presents from the British Government of blankets, knives, ammunition, and other articles. This custom of giving presents to the Indians had continued from the first British occupation of Canada. Even after the United States held entire sway in her own territory, the Indians continued to come from as far west as the Mississippi River to the annual distribution of presents at Amherstburg. In 1829 the British Government here distributed sixty tons of presents.

Great Britain bestowed these presents ostensibly in payment for the services rendered by these Indians during the War of 1812, in which they fought on the side of the British against the United States. As the British continued this practice up to the year of 1839, two years after Michigan was granted statehood, and after most of the Indians of the old Northwest Territory had been removed beyond the Mississippi, it is evident that the purpose was not to pay the Indians for past services but to keep them stirred up against the Americans and loyal to Great Britain in some future attempt to conquer the United States.

It is a well-known fact that the British, during the interim between the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and



THE GREAT SAUK TRAIL IN ILLINOIS

for many years after the latter, constantly stirred up the Indians and encouraged them to attack defenceless American settlers, as the history of Michigan and Ohio during this period will confirm. The British desire to retain control of the Northwest country is further confirmed by the fact that after both the wars mentioned they continued to hold the fortified posts they had taken in Michigan for a long time after the wars had closed, a distinct violation of the terms of peace. Not only from Canada itself, but also from these illegally-held posts, the British encouraged the Indians in every way to attack the Americans.

Of these unfriendly acts, President Washington, in a letter to John Jay, said: "There doesn't remain a doubt that all the difficulties we encounter with the Indians result from the conduct of the agents of Great Britain in this country." These unfriendly acts were continued long after the War of 1812. The British even set up a claim that under the provisions of the Treaty of Ghent, the Indians on the American side of the boundary had a right to look to them for protection.

That there was a great trail running east and west across northern Illinois is shown by some of the earliest maps of the Illinois country. In Thevenot's map of 1681 is shown a dotted line running across middle Wisconsin from Green Bay to the Mississippi and marked "*Chemin de l' Aller*" (route of going). Another dotted line across Illinois from the Mississippi to the Illinois River at Old Kaskaskia is marked "*Chemin du Retour*" (route of return).

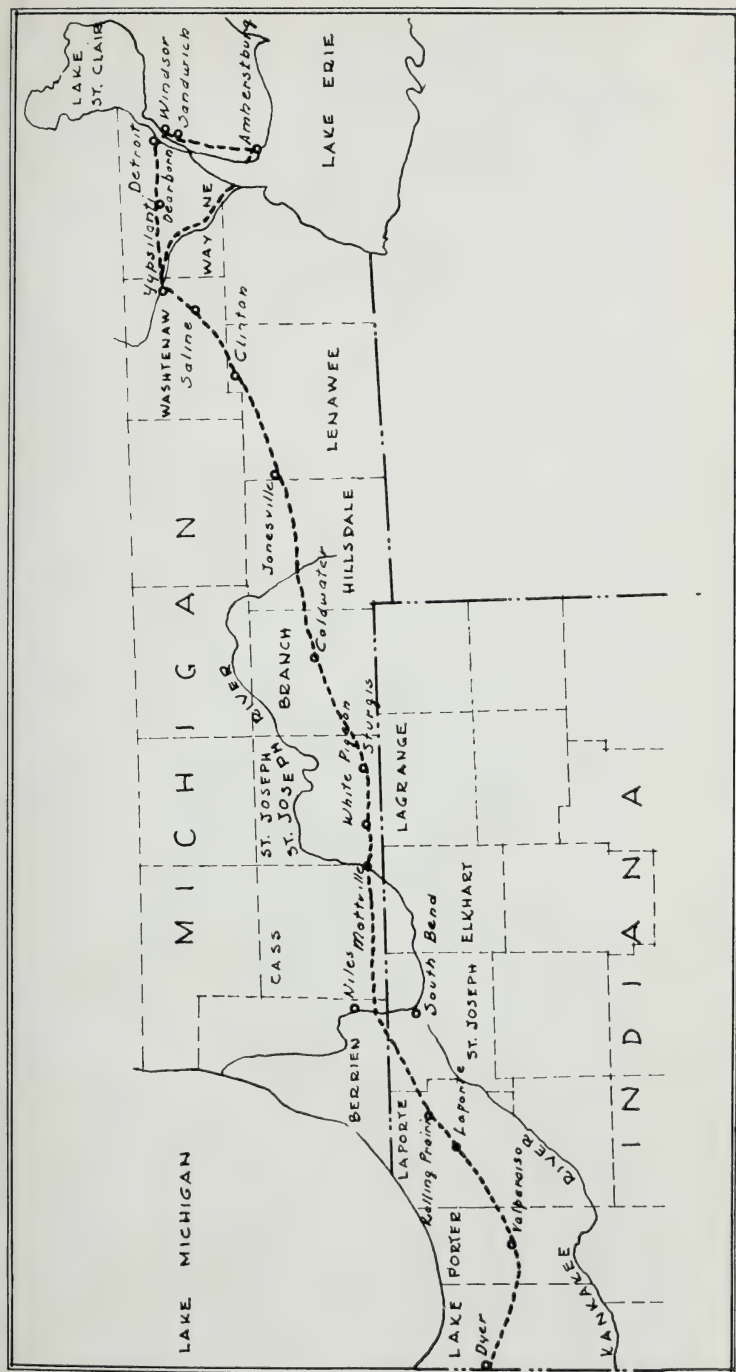
The latter dotted line purports to show the return route of Jolliet and Marquette on their memorable return journey from the Mississippi after discovering the latter. Thevenot, however, mixed things badly in his map because Mar-

quette's description of the journey details their return trip as being up the Illinois and Des Plaines rivers. It is very likely that on the way down the Mississippi, the Illinois Indians whom the explorers met on the west bank of that river told them about a great trail running east across the prairies and that the maker of the map misunderstood this trail as being the route of Marquette's return. There is no doubt, however, but that this "Chemin du Retour" is the Sauk trail.

Quite likely the first white man to travel the Illinois part of the old trail was LaSalle. It is interesting to read in some of the accounts of his return to Canada from Fort Crevecoeur in 1680 as being "through the trackless forest." As a matter of fact, instead of picking his way through "the trackless forest," he followed a well-defined trail. As this old Sauk trail follows the most direct and easiest route to Canada, it is altogether likely that LaSalle followed it on his memorable journey back to that country in search of assistance for his Illinois project.

When the pioneer white settlers of Michigan began to arrive, they followed the old trail into the interior and it became one of the state's earliest roads. Quaife, in his *Chicago Highways, Old and New*, says: "After the establishment of military garrisons at Fort Wayne and Chicago, the trails between these places acquired a new importance for the white men. Over them passed the earliest postmen in the Northwest, soldiers carrying the meager mails or official despatches between the several posts." Schoolcraft, who was at Chicago in 1820, described the trail near Chicago as "a plain horse path which is considerably traveled by traders, hunters, and others."

Lewis Cass followed the old trail back to Detroit from Chicago in 1821 after his great conference with the Indians



THE GREAT SAUK TRAIL IN INDIANA AND MICHIGAN

of Illinois and Michigan. By the treaty signed at this time, the Indians gave up considerable land in Michigan and consented to the construction of a military road from Detroit to Chicago.

The part of the trail between Chicago and Detroit was developed into this military road, officially called the "Chicago Road." "The actual survey," says Quaife, "was begun from the Detroit side in 1825. The engineer in charge began the work on the plan of running the road on nearly straight lines. He soon found, however, that this plan, which entailed cutting a vista for his compass through the dense timber and spending much time in searching out new routes and eligible river crossings, would entail a far larger expenditure than the sum at his disposal. He therefore hit upon the expedient of following the ancient Indian trail. From certain points of view, this was an excellent plan, since the red men, in laying out the trail, had in general avoided the worst marshes and sought out the best fording places. They had also traversed the most attractive prairies to be found in southern Michigan so that when settlers began to come west along the Chicago road they found the choicest places for settlement lying directly upon the great interior highway."

Very little work was done on the road until 1830. The rude corduroy road had gone but little farther than Ypsilanti when the Indian scare, the Black Hawk War, developed and delayed work for a time. Black Hawk and his band had just passed over the trail from Detroit to Chicago. They had been to Amherstburg and had received among other things presents of arms and ammunition, and the people in Michigan feared they would retreat along the trail to Canada. Of course, depredations could be expected and the wildest panic prevailed. The militia was called out and went as far west as Niles. Chicago was defenceless and

OTHER END OF THE GREAT SAUK TRAIL

called upon Detroit for help. General John R. Williams of Detroit hastened there with several hundred Michigan militia and secured the place until the arrival of the regulars.

For many years the first white settlers along this road in southern Michigan witnessed the annual trips of the Sauk Indians to Amherstburg. Many tales are told of how frightened they were when the cavalcade was on its way, as the Indians lived on what they could beg, pilfer, or threaten from the white settlers. Melvin D. Osband, writing in the *Michigan Pioneer Collections*, says: "As a timid boy, during the thirties, I well remember the consternation I experienced, in going to and from school, on occasions of meeting bands of Indians going to Canada to receive presents. After 1839 our Indians were promised presents only on condition of their removing to Canada."

These scares were not confined to Michigan settlers, but were also very evident in Illinois. In John H. Hauberg's "Indian Trails Centering at Black Hawk's Village," he quotes James M. Bucklin, chief engineer of the Illinois and Michigan Canal as saying: "While we were encamped on the Calumet River, on one occasion during our protracted stay, about 200 Sauk and Fox Indians on horseback passed on a trail not more than a hundred yards from our camp, without turning their faces to the right or to the left, on their way to Fort Malden (Amherstburg) for arms and ammunition. No doubt they marked us for their own, as the Sauk or Black Hawk War was then about due, but was only postponed for a year by the unexpected arrival at Fort Armstrong, Rock Island, of General Gaines with two or three companies of artillery."

Matson, in his history of Bureau County, says: "The last time the Indians were seen on this trail was in 1837 when

the last of the Indians were being removed from Michigan to the Mississippi. Mrs. James G. Everett tells us she was on the occasion of the passing through Bureau County of the last large body of Indians, teaching school just west of Princeville. She was then new in the West and knew but little of Indian characteristics. She was occupied with her school duties when the red men began suddenly to surround the building. She was terribly frightened, but some of the children had heard at home of the Indians going to pass that day and explained to the teacher that they would not harm them, and in a little while the cavalcade passed along."

Arriving near the Canadian end of the long, long trail, the Indians always stopped at a huge mound on the River Rouge. This mound was five miles from down-town Detroit and fourteen miles from Amherstburg, where the British Indian Agency was located and where the presents to the Indians were distributed. The mound was originally about 800 feet long, 400 feet wide, and 40 feet high. It has now entirely disappeared, a pumping station of the Ford Motor Company being located on the site. This mound was evidently a communal burying ground. It was built from sand suitable for mortar and was taken down by the owner, the Chase estate, and the sand boated up to Detroit and sold for 25 cents a barrel. In the process of its destruction, more than 1,300 skeletons were unearthed. These were dumped unceremoniously into the Rouge River.

No history, no tradition, gives any clue to the builders of the mound, but whoever built it, it had been a favorite meeting place of the Indians for many years, and the Sauk Indians on their way to Amherstburg always stopped here for several days. Bela Hubbard, who lived a short distance from the mound, in his *Memorials of a Half Century*, thus described it: "The situation was such as would be chosen

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by the Mound Builders over all others for their dead. It was most picturesque. At the base, circling nearly two sides of the mound, lay the deep waters of the River Rouge. Beyond stretched a field of natural meadow to the River Detroit half a mile distant, and visible for many miles of its course. To the south and west were seen Grosse Isle and the channel leading past Malden (Amherstburg) to Lake Erie. Above stretched the straits, as far as the site of the city, while northwest the view commanded many miles of rolling country."

Continuing, with the reasons for the traveling Indians on their way to Amherstburg stopping there, Hubbard said: "Many a time had his (the Indian's) canoe paused at this place, and, landing, he had ascended the ancient mound, while his eyes roamed over the wide expanse of river and marsh and land in search of friendly forms, or it may be, of parties of his foes, creeping stealthily along its sandy shores. Here, as tradition tells, the great Pontiac resorted — that stern uncompromising foe of the Anglo-Saxon. Where but upon the graves of his ancestors could he so worthily arouse the hearts of the living to resent their oppressors? And here, when hope had perished, may the savage hero have come to muse upon the past and its faded glories! What shades would throng around him if each skeleton form of the thousands that lay below could answer to his summons!"

Hubbard further said that on the occasion of the Indians stopping here, the nights would be made hideous with their drunken war-whoops and that the white settlers of the vicinity prudently remained indoors and felt safe only when the Indians had departed. It is well-known fact, confirmed by the author's personal association with the Chippewas of upper Michigan, that it is not exactly safe for a white person to be around when the Indians celebrate the past glories

of their ancestors and call to realization their fall from their previous high estate.

When the drunken orgies of the Indians at the Rouge mound were over, they proceeded on the last lap of their journey. The Indian Agent, Col. Matthew Elliott, lived a mile below Amherstburg, right on the banks of Lake Erie. Here the presents were distributed, the Indians camping around his home and on Bois Blanc Island, a short distance off shore.

Colonel Elliott had been a trader in the Pennsylvania region during the Revolutionary War. Alexander McKee had been a British Indian Agent in the Fort Pitt country but had been arrested by General Lewis, American commandant at Fort Pitt (Pittsburgh) and placed on parole. When Simon Girty, the American renegade, was reprimanded by General Lewis, deserted the American army and fled to Detroit, which was held by the British, to offer his services to the British Government, McKee broke his parole and, together with Elliott, accompanied Girty in his flight.

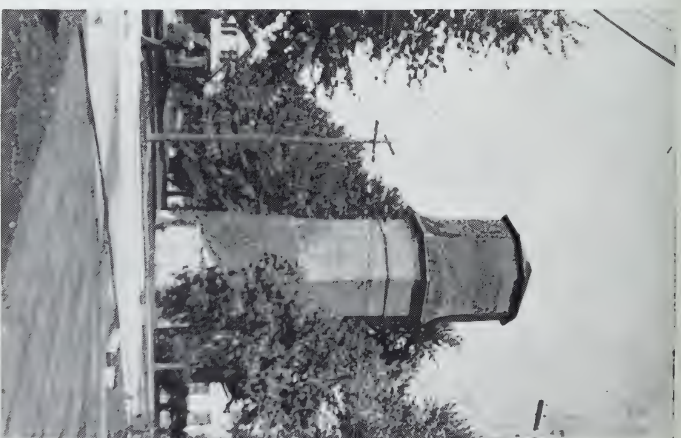
On arrival at Detroit, where General Henry Hamilton was searching for a "loyal Britisher who could lead the Indians to make a diversion on the frontiers of Virginia and Pennsylvania," Girty, "short-necked, stocky, a man full of petty pride, great personal courage, capable of ferocity and kindness," was cut out for the job. Colonel Elliott and McKee were also given commissions in the British Indian service, but Girty was the most capable. His new duties were to go down into the Ohio country and live among the Indians, keeping them friendly to the English, and leading raids against the defenceless white settlers.

When the war was over, the British government rewarded Elliott and Girty by giving them each a large tract of land below Amherstburg. Here Elliott, in 1785, built a com-

modious house of logs. It had three massive fireplaces, one at each end of the building, and one in the middle. Girty had a much less pretentious home a stone's throw beyond the Elliott home. The Elliott home formed the center of attraction for the Indians on both sides of the Detroit River. Here Girty spent many of his evenings recounting over with Elliott the old days at Fort Pitt.

The Revolutionary War did not settle the differences between England and the United States. There were constant disputes which finally led to the War of 1812. In the meantime Great Britain built Fort Malden at Amherstburg. This fort commanded the entrance to the Detroit River and the upper lakes country. With the declaration of war, the home of Elliott became a great source of activity. To him and Girty was again entrusted the duty of enrolling the Indians in the service of Great Britain. After Hull's disgraceful surrender of Detroit, Girty took up his residence there and from there either led personally, or directed, the many bloody Indian raids against the unprotected white settlers in Michigan, Ohio, and Virginia.

When General Brock was made commander-in-chief of the British forces in Canada, he hurried from New York to Fort Malden to direct the operations of the forces there. He stopped at the Elliott home and requested Elliott to send for the noted Indian chief, Tecumseh, for a conference. Tecumseh and his band, which included the Sauk warrior, Black Hawk, Billy Caldwell, Shabbona, and Gomo, all famous in Illinois history, were encamped on Bois Blanc Island. Girty delivered the message to Tecumseh and accompanied him with a few warriors to Elliott's home. The conference lasted long into the night. When at last it was over, Brock and Elliott invited Tecumseh to sleep in the Elliott home with them. He refused, however, saying



HISTORIC SITES IN AMHERSTBURG

Monument to Simon Girty (left). The Elliott home, where Black Hawk and his followers received arms and ammunition from the British (center). The old water tower in the King's Shipyard, where ships for the War of 1812 were built (right).

that he was no better than his followers, and as they had to sleep elsewhere, he would join them. They slept in the attic of a small stone milk-house back of the Elliott home. This stone building, while needing repairs, is still standing.

The next day Tecumseh moved his band over from the island to the mainland. Stepping upon a small boulder, he harangued his followers and secured their allegiance to Great Britain. This stone is now in the yard of a private home at Amherstburg.

Adjoining the grounds of Fort Malden was the King's shipyard where the ships used in the naval warfare on Lake Erie were built. The British fleet was in the hands of Captain Barclay. This old shipyard formed one of the familiar sights to the Illinois Indians on their annual journeys to Elliott's home for their presents. Today the old water tower of the shipyard can still be seen towering above the tree tops.

When the victory of Perry on Lake Erie, followed by Harrison's successful invasion of Canada, culminating in the Battle of the Thames, where Tecumseh was killed, spelled the defeat of the British forces in Ontario, the end of the War of 1812 was in sight. The Battle of the Thames is especially interesting to people of Illinois because of the fact that Illinois Indians fought in the battle under the flag of Great Britain and the leadership of Tecumseh. Three Illinois chiefs were aides of Tecumseh in this battle. These were the Potawatomi, Billy Caldwell; Shabbona, an Ottawa by birth but a Potawatomi chief; and Black Hawk, the Sauk chief. Black Hawk stated that Gomo was also at the battle.

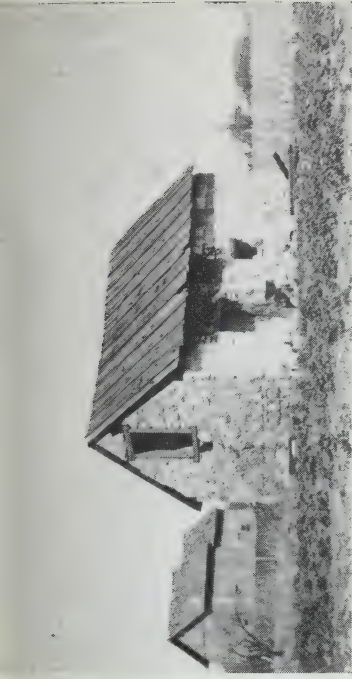
When the British evacuated Detroit after the war, Girty returned to his home in Canada. His daughter's husband operated a tavern in Amherstburg and here Girty spent much of his time drinking. He was still a frequent visitor

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at the Elliott home. Domestic trouble ended in his leaving the farm to his wife and going to the Mohawk village at Burlington Heights, where he remained for a few years. Getting feeble, he returned to his own home where his wife comforted his remaining years.

Going to his son-in-law's tavern one night in February, 1818, he walked home through the big snow drifts. He caught cold and three days later died. The snow was so deep that those who attended the funeral drove on the hard crust over the fences. A firing squad from Fort Malden plowed their way through the snow and fired a last salute over the renegade's grave. He was buried on his own farm only a few rods from the house. At first the grave was marked by a wooden slab but this passed away through the exposure of years. The farm was sold by Girty's wife to a man named Mickle and it has been in the possession of the Mickle family ever since. Nothing now marks Girty's grave except the corner of a tool shed. In 1933 Girty's descendents, with the permission of the Mickles, erected a monument to his memory in the front yard of the former Girty home. It is the form of a broken tree and bears this inscription: "Simon Girty—1741-1818—A faithful servant of the British Indian Department for 20 years."

The old Elliott home passed through many vicissitudes after its owner passed away. Part of the original logs were covered with siding. One after another portion of it went to decay. Finally it came into the hands of the Weber estate of Detroit. Weber put a new roof on it a few years ago. But it was open and curiosity seekers have carried away everything inside—the partitions, floor, etc., until nothing remains but a mere shell. With the two old fireplaces reaching thirty feet or more upward, the old building presents a rude but imposing ruin. It is often called "Eliza's Cabin," from the fact that it formed a spot for harboring run-away



FORT MALDEN AND EARLY AMHERSTBURG

Site of Fort Malden (upper left). The Officers' Mess Hall. The only remaining building of Fort Malden (lower left). The Elliott farm milkhouse, where Tecumseh slept after a conference with General Brock (upper right). An Amherstburg building which antedates the War of 1812.

slaves from the United States in their escape to Canada previous to the Civil War.

Fort Malden was partially burned by Colonel Proctor when he fled from General Harrison. It was later restored and re-occupied, again playing an important part in the Patriot's War of 1838. The last detachment that garrisoned the fort was recalled in 1851 and the fort fell into disuse and eventual decay. Today the person who follows the Great Sauk Trail to Amherstburg can see only one of the original fort buildings. It is what was the officers' mess hall. It now forms the residence of Dr. R. H. Wilson. The owner has made as few changes as possible. A long narrow slit in the brick wall shows its use as a fort building. The moat, half-filled with refuse and overrun with weeds, is discernible only where it flanks the northwest bastion.

Amherstburg occupied a very important position in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, and indeed, as long as the Indian Agency was located there. It achieved temporary fame again during the Patriot's War of 1838, when several Amherstburg citizens were killed in an attack upon the invaders from the United States. A monument bears the names of those who fell.

Today Amherstburg is a quiet village of the olden time. Its extremely narrow streets, as well as the quaint old buildings, proclaim its age. An Episcopal church, dating back to 1798, with its yard full to overflowing with graves, gives one a glimpse of old church burial practices. Still discernible at the end of the old trail, sights familiar to the Illinois Indians who traveled it, are the remains of Fort Malden, the tower of the King's shipyard, the stone from which Tecumseh harrangeud his followers, and, above all, the old Elliott home which formed the Indian Agency and which was the mecca of the Illinois Indians. Within a few years,

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however, all of these will have perished and nothing except the recently-erected monument to Simon Girty, arch-renegade of the American cause, will be left to remind one of the eventful chapters in United States history whose principal setting occurred at Amherstburg, at the end of the Great Sauk Trail.

“CONSERVATIVE”— ANOTHER LINCOLN PSEUDONYM?

By

GLENN H. SEYMOUR

Most biographers of Lincoln have intimated that the early files of the *Illinois State Journal* contain much material written by him for political purposes but few apparently have cared to present specific examples and risk assigning them to him. Editors of Lincoln's writings have been extremely scrupulous in excluding all of this anonymous material except those few things he later chose publicly to claim. It is entirely proper that they should have done so. But in publications of more controversial nature a larger amount of speculation may be permitted, and this is my sole excuse for contributing the “discovery” that follows. Despite the positiveness of tone with which the case is presented, he who reads may be sure I intend nothing else but to present a problem to those who love to try their critical wits on Lincoln minutiae.

In November, 1837, the Democrats of the Third District in Illinois held the first convention ever held in that District and nominated the young Stephen A. Douglas for Congress over the rather ineffectual incumbent, William L. May. It was a victory for a group of “New Dealers” over the old leadership. Douglas' opponent on the Whig ticket was John T. Stuart, senior partner in the firm of Stuart and

“CONSERVATIVE”—ANOTHER LINCOLN PSEUDONYM?

Lincoln. During January and February of 1838 a series of letters was published in the *Sangamo Journal* signed “A Conservative” and purporting to come from a conservative Democrat deploring the conduct of affairs in his party. It is the contention of this article that at least the last two and an addendum to the second were written by Abraham Lincoln. Quite apart from their possible authorship, however, they make interesting and amusing reading.

The first letter was published in the issue of January 12, 1838, and was headed “Conservative No. 1,” an indication to the readers that there was more to follow. It dealt entirely with the shortcomings of the Democratic press of the state with rather more sharpness than even a disgruntled Democrat would be expected to display. This letter shows few or none of the Lincoln characteristics contained in the others and may have been written by Simeon Francis. On January 27 appeared “Conservative No. 2” which is given here in full—a scorching attack on the Peoria nomination. Three days later Douglas answered with a long letter in the Springfield *Republican* demanding the name of the “Conservative.”¹ This called forth an “Addendum to Conservative No. 2” published in the *Journal* on February 3. “Conservative No. 3” following up the controversy was printed on February 10 and so far as my search reveals ended the series. This last letter will be described later.

Lincoln was in Springfield during most or all of the time that these letters appeared.² He was naturally much interested in the outcome of this particular campaign because of his close business and friendly relations with Stuart. Several letters written the next year when Douglas attempted to

¹This letter may be found in the *Illinois State Register*, February 23, 1838.

²Beveridge, *Abraham Lincoln*, I, p. 230, note. Beveridge shows that the well known Lyceum Address listed in Lincoln's *Works* as having been delivered in Springfield in January, 1837, was most likely delivered there in January, 1838, just before the time of its publication in the *Sangamo Journal*.

contest the election of Stuart testify to Lincoln's intimate connection with the Whig board of strategy. For years his relations with Simeon Francis were such that the pages of the *Journal* were open to him at all times.³ Beveridge asserts that he wrote several newsletters to the paper from Vandalia during the legislative session of 1836.⁴ It should be noted too as important external evidence that the "Conservative" letters fall precisely in the period of Lincoln's life when he was addicted to the composition of anonymous letters. During the summer and fall of 1837 he had dragged a semi-political lawsuit into the papers by attacking General James Adams in a series of letters signed "Sampson's Ghost" and finally had disclosed his identity in the last three letters which appeared between August and October.⁵ The famous "Rebecca of Lost Townships" letters were published in 1842 and led to the embarrassing near-duel with Shields.⁶

But the strongest indication of Lincoln's authorship lies in an examination of the style and construction of the letters. The narrative which begins with the second paragraph of "Conservative No. 2" resembles very closely the few examples we have of Lincoln's written narrative style at this period. Let us arrange together the following sentences:

1. "In the first place, a certain gentleman who resides in Sangamon county, and who has followed a variety of occupations both here and elsewhere, for a living and failed in all, cast about for some desperate manoeuvre that might save

³" . . . It is no stretch of the truth to say that for years Lincoln exercised undisputed control of the columns of the *Journal* himself. Whatever he wrote or had written, went into the editorial page without question." Herndon and Weik, *Abraham Lincoln*, I, p. 212.

⁴Beveridge, *Abraham Lincoln*, I, pp. 183-184.

⁵For an account of the whole episode see *Ibid.*, I, pp. 212-218. The last three letters referred to are in Nicolay and Hay, *Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln*, I, p. 57 ff.

⁶I have found three anonymous letters purporting to come from the "Lost Townships" in the *Sangamo Journal* for February 10, May 5, and May 26, 1838. They do not bear Lincoln's mark, however.

him, when he should be called upon to close up his loafing operations."

—Beginning of narrative portion of "Conservative No. 2."

2. "Sometime in May or June last, a widow woman, by the name of Anderson, and her son, who resides in Fulton county, came to Springfield, for the purpose, as they said, of selling a ten acre lot of ground lying near town, which they claimed as the property of the deceased husband and father."

—From the Handbill to the *Journal* in the Adams controversy, August 19, 1837.

3. "It was, then, in the autumn of 1836 that a married lady of my acquaintance, and who was a great friend of mine, being about to pay a visit to her father and other relatives residing in Kentucky, proposed to me that on her return she would bring a sister of hers with her on condition that I would engage to become her brother-in-law with all convenient despatch."

—Beginning of narrative in Lincoln's letter to Mrs. Browning, April 1, 1838.

The reader of the "Conservative" letters will find many other sentences of the same general form which he may add to this list. I have called attention to many of them in footnotes to the text. The similarity in the above examples lies in a certain cadence and rhythm which distinguished Lincoln's prose throughout his life. These sentences show his tendency at this period of his life to work three or four separate ideas into the same sentence by the use of many relative and conditional clauses. His great skill at grammar makes these really tortuous sentences seem unusually compact. On this score I suggest a comparison of the sentence in the letter

to Mrs. Browning beginning, "I knew she was called an 'old maid,' etc." with this one from the second paragraph of "Conservative No. 2":

"It was filled by a young man of respectable talents for one of his age, who had received rather an extraordinary succession of favors from his party, and who, mistaking those favors, which were merely designed to give him the means of living, as evidence of a high admiration of his talents, was more completely assailable on the score of vanity, and more susceptible of flattery than is often the lot of man to be."

What a sentence! And yet how well constructed it is if we waive the point as to whether one sentence ought ever to contain so many ideas. Later on in the development of his style Lincoln avoided this sort of thing but in the thirties he still enjoyed exercising his grammatical skill at just such problems in sentence construction.

The arrangement of the argument is peculiarly characteristic of Lincoln. There is a lawyer-like presentation by which the whole thing is tied together to direct the reader to a forced conclusion. The opening paragraph of No. 2 states concisely what is to be proved and the final recurrence to the proof on the basis of the evidence is powerful and very like Lincoln in his best argumentative style. Lincoln's favorite logical device, the excluded middle, is used at the beginning of the "Addendum to No. 2" and again at the close of No. 3.

The letters contain some peculiarly Lincolnesque originalities; e.g., "close up his loafing operations," "all the powers of his mind were put to the torture," "preferring himself to the best of his friends," and the designation of an anonymous person as "the man of expedients."

Throughout the compositions one's attention is constantly attracted to the cautious interpolation of conditioning clauses and phrases — a characteristic of Lincoln's throughout his life. His statements are frequently interrupted by such asides as "as is supposed," "or nearly all," "or at least, very nearly," "and I hope conscientiously too," "if it had been possible to avoid it," "if prudently used," etc. Various students of Lincoln's style have called attention to this trait and explained it as an evidence of great caution, of craftiness, or of an extreme desire for exactness, depending upon the point of view of the analyst.

One feature in the letters seems to me a somewhat stronger indicant than some of the others I have mentioned. That is the liberal use of contemporary politicians' idiom. Examples are: "made a set at," "to go for," "prime mover," "got up a meeting," "been before the people," "prove it on us," "drive the nominee from the track," and "must be placed upon the track." These expressions were commonly used by politicians and in the newspapers of the time but few men would have used them in the composition of a more or less formal piece. Lincoln's writings are spiced with them however, and he early realized the power and terseness that could be attained by their use. Several of these will be readily recognized by those acquainted with the Lincoln writings. The expression, "to go for," was a favorite of his and will be found in his letter to Stuart of January 1, 1840,⁷ in his Announcement of Political Views, dated at New Salem, June 13, 1836,⁸ and in many other letters. The reference to a candidate being on or off the track is used twice in one letter written to Stuart on March 26, 1840.⁹

⁷Nicolay and Hay, *Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln*, I, pp. 140-141.

⁸*Ibid.*, I, pp. 14-15.

⁹*Ibid.*, I, pp. 150-151.

Throughout these letters I am sure the Lincoln student will be struck, too, with the regular sprinkling of little phrases and expressions that seem familiar. One who is at home in the Lincoln material will greet with a nod of recognition the following:

"Than is often the lot of man to be"

"as is supposed"

"depend upon it"

"Done." (Used as a complete sentence)

"Agreed." (Used in the same manner)

"Anon" as the opening word of a sentence

"God knows"

"if it had been possible to avoid it"

"I now again say"

In these letters also we find Lincoln's familiar device of breaking the rhythm of his prose with short terse little sentences designed to center the attention of the reader or the listener on a particular point. Thus, after a succession of rather long flowing preparatory sentences, the "Conservative" writes: "Anon the Convention is in session at Peoria. This same man is there taking the lead." Notice too the second and third sentences of the "Addendum to No. 2": "Mr. D. has either mistaken my object, or designs to lead me from it. If the latter, he will not succeed for more reasons than one."

Finally, the identity of Lincoln with the "Conservative" is given away by the roguish humor that breaks here and there to the surface. Sometimes it appears in the turn of a short phrase as when the "prime mover" contemplates his future when he shall have "to close up his loafing operations." Again in "Conservative No. 2" there is a satirical ragging of Douglas on the score of his vanity and ambition

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which reminds one of the later lampoon on Douglas' friend, Shields, and is quite characteristic of Lincoln. The same thing is found again in the "Addendum to No. 2." In the "Addendum" the reference to the "high-toned blue-light federalists" is overdone but is an exaggerated mimicry of Democratic campaign literature which Lincoln couldn't have resisted even if it gave away the character he was assuming.

I now present the letters themselves with some further comment worked in as footnotes.

THE CONSERVATIVE—No. 2

The present number will be devoted to the Peoria Convention. And while I admit that conventions really gotten up by the People, unpacked and fairly conducted throughout, are highly proper, and strictly democratic in every just sense of the word; I shall attempt to show that the one lately held at Peoria, was gotten¹⁰ up and conducted in such a manner, as to render it both injurious and disgraceful to the party if they attempt to sustain it.

In the first place, a certain gentleman who resides in Sangamon county, and who has followed a variety of occupations both here and elsewhere, for a living and failed in all, cast about for some desperate manoeuvre [*sic*] that might save him, when he should be called upon to close up his loafing operations. After some considerable wandering, his eyes were finally settled upon a Land Office; and to remove the incumbent, and place himself in his stead, all the powers of his mind were put to the torture. He first made a set at the Receiver's Office in Springfield, but the Receiver seeing

¹⁰Lincoln used the word "gotten" at this period. See the Handbill in the Adams controversy referred to before. ". . . the General charges that the whole has been gotten up by a knot of lawyers to injure his election." Nicolay and Hay, *Complete Works*, I, p. 58. See also Lincoln's letter to Mary Owens, December 13, 1836: ". . . but that, with other things I cannot account for, have conspired, and have gotten my spirits so low that I feel that I would rather be any place in the world than here." *Ibid.*, I, p. 18.

nothing in prospect that he liked better, and preferring himself to the best of his friends, chose not to be jostled from his place. Next he turned to the Register's Office. It was filled by a young man of respectable talents for one of his age, who had received rather an extraordinary succession of favors from his party, and who, mistaking those favors, which were merely designed to give him the means of living, as evidence of a high admiration of his talents, was more completely assailable on the score of vanity, and more susceptible of flattery than is often the lot of man to be.¹¹

Long practice enabled him to discover the vulnerable point of the Register; and there he directed his attack. He commenced, as is supposed, by telling him that he regretted to see him confined to the dry and laborious occupation of writing answers to the endless and silly enquiries of every applicant about N. W. of S. E. of 23, T. 24 R. 3 W., etc., etc.; that for one whom nature designed for nothing else but to be

“Fixed to one certain spot,
To draw nutrition, propagate, and rot.”¹²

such a plodding occupation was well enough; but that for one of his towering genius, it was absolutely intolerable. “You,” continued he, “may be President of these United States just as well as not. A seat in Congress is not worthy to be your abiding place, though you might with propriety serve one term in the capacity of Representative — not that it would at all become you; but merely in imitation of some king, who being called to the throne from obscurity, lodges for one night in a hovel as he journies to the palace. History gives no account of a man of your age occupying such high

¹¹Every sentence to this point, after the first one, is an example of the complex sentence structure Lincoln did so well.

¹²Slightly misquoted from Pope's “Essay on Man.” It should read:

“Fixed like a plant on his peculiar spot,
To draw nutrition, propagate, and rot.”

I have been unable to discover whether Lincoln was likely to have read Pope at this time or not. The “Essay on Man” is exactly the sort of thing that would have fascinated him and this couplet has the compact terseness he admired.

“CONSERVATIVE”—ANOTHER LINCOLN PSEUDONYM?

ground as you do now. At twenty-four Bonaparte was unheard of; and in fact so it has been with all great men in former times. Of the history of all of them, Mr. Van Buren alone approaches rivalry to yours. Indeed, the similarity is striking. The only difference, perhaps, is, that his own was but the miniature of what your's is the life size.”¹³

“But,” said the Register, “do you really think a seat in Congress within my reach?”

“Within your reach! What a question!—How strange it is, that while true genius can place a true estimate upon everything else, it never can upon its own powers. There is no doubt of a seat in Congress being within your reach. The only question is whether you will condescend to occupy it. Our party have the majority in this District, and all you have to do is to get nominated at a District Convention as a party candidate. Get the nomination, place this office in my hands, (which I would by no means accept, only for the opportunity it will afford me of serving you) and take the field boldly, and make a regular electioneering campaign of it from this time to the election, and, depend upon it, success is certain.”

“Done,” says the Register. “Procure me the nomination of the District Convention, and the office is yours.”

“I fear you mistake my motive,” says the man of expedients. “I only proposed to take the office as a means of serving you.”

“Just so I understand you,” says the Register.

“So let it be then.”

“Agreed.”

Steps were immediately taken to get up a Convention. The ‘man of expedients’ was seen to be the prime

¹³There is a decided looseness in the phrasing of this and several of the preceding sentences. But the development of the thought goes ahead like lightning. A similar sacrifice of pure form for economy will be found occurring all through the three letters published over Lincoln's name in the Adams controversy.

mover of all, or nearly all, the primary meetings this side of the river.—As many delegates were to be appointed from each county, as the county was entitled to senators and representative [*sic*] in the legislature.—In Sangamon I know precisely how the matter was managed. Nine men were appointed delegates, care being taken to get as many of them pledged to the Register as possible, and the remainder made up of men who it was known, would not attend, and their vacancies of course were to be filled by those who did. And it is a fact not to be denied, that in filling these vacancies, no man would or could be accepted unless he would pledge himself to go for the Register. There was much difficulty in getting all these places filled; and I know that several as respectable members of the party as can be found in the county, voluntarily offered to go, but were rejected in consequence of expressing a preference for other men over him who finally received the nomination: while others who accepted and did attend, had their stage fare and expenses paid to Peoria and back from a source they knew not whence; for no other reason than their being pleased to vote for the Register.¹⁴ This same spouting prime mover, attended the horse races at Jacksonville, and got up a meeting there, which I have every reason to believe, was conducted precisely, or at least, very nearly, in the same manner as that in Sangamon. Anon the Convention is in session at Peoria. This same man is there taking the lead. Discovering that matters are so arranged, that his man can succeed if the vote be immediately taken, he announces to the Convention that some of his family are dangerously ill, and that he must of necessity leave before the next day, and therefore requests that the nomination be immediately made. Through kindness to him the unsuspecting members consent, and the nomination is made, when, to the astonishment of all, this man again rises in a blaze of good humor, and proposes that the Convention shall

¹⁴Mark the structure and rhythm of this sentence.

adjourn the next day,¹⁵ that the members may have the pleasure of a better acquaintance!—He was detected in, and castigated for his duplicity on the spot by a talented young gentleman, Mr. Hoge, of Galena; but even then, little did the members think that a majority of them were at that very moment the dupes of this man; and that they had actually made a nomination, which, but for his exertions,¹⁶ from motives now apparent, would never have been thought of. But the nomination was made; and, according to contract, I presume, at this time, a correspondence is going on between Washington and this place, in regard to the regular transfer of the Land Office.

I have said the nomination, if adhered to by the party, would both injure and disgrace them. I maintain the points. It will injure them because it will lose them the district. Abstractly speaking, the nominee is a clever enough young man; but he cannot be elected. He has not a personal acquaintance with the one-hundredth man in the District; and by those to whom he is known, he is not remarkably favorably known. If there were no other evidence, the profound silence and disregard, with which the whig press treat him, are sufficient to prove that his claims to a seat in Congress, are beneath the dignity of contempt. God knows they are never slow in the abuse and slander of any democrat, that is worth slandering and abusing: and yet, although he has been before the people of the district some six or eight weeks, no one of them has even condescended to notice him in any way, except the Chicago American; and I have no doubt that if the editor could see the man, he would beg pardon for what he has done, and promise faithfully to do so no more.¹⁷

¹⁵Evidently a typographical error; it must have been written “*until* the next day.”

¹⁶Lincoln was rather given to this sort of phrase. “I tried to imagine her handsome, which, but for her unfortunate corpulency, was actually true,” he wrote to Mrs. Browning concerning Miss Owens.

¹⁷An interesting example both of Lincoln’s sentence construction and his gift for lampooning.

But an attempt to sustain this nomination will both injure and disgrace the party on another account.¹⁸ Our party have ever declared, and I hope conscientiously too, that they were actuated only by the purest motives. On the other hand, the whigs are ever charging us with corruption; and I confess if we attempt to sustain the Peoria nomination with all the foul and corrupt transactions that attended it in its incipient and subsequent stages, it will put them to little trouble to prove it on us. If such ill-begotten assemblages as that, be permitted to pass as regular Democratic Conventions, it will not be long, till the honest of all parties will need only to be informed that a candidate has been nominated by a Convention, to determine them to vote against him. They will receive, as they should, the scorn and contempt of the world.

In conclusion, I will say, I *can* not vote for the Peoria nominee, and I *will* not vote for a whig. I go for a new District Convention, to be really gotten up by the people, that shall not be a disgrace upon the word; and that will nominate some member of the party who will stand some chance of success.

A Conservative.

ADDENDUM—TO CONSERVATIVE NO. 2

In looking over the loco foco paper published here, I discover that my last number has called forth a very ill-natured, and to my judgment, a very silly article from Mr. Douglass.¹⁹ Mr. D. has either mistaken my object, or designs to lead me from it. If the latter, he will not succeed for more reasons than one. In the first place, I am on terms of friendship with him, and wish to remain so. As to his abuse of²⁰ [] it, as the fulmination of [] gain to give up my name

¹⁸Note the Lincoln manner of keeping his points squarely before the audience at all times.

¹⁹Douglas spelled his name this way until around 1845.

²⁰A small bit is torn out of the paper at this point, cutting off the ends of about four lines of type. I have used the files in the Illinois State Historical Library.

would [] public attention from what I consider a very important subject, to a mere personal difficulty between him and me.

My object was not to assail him; nor would I have even referred to him, if it had been possible to avoid it. I did not even mean to charge him with culpability in contracting the land office. Under ordinary circumstances, I would regard such a transaction as culpable; but I hold if a man is flattered out of his senses, he is no more responsible than when he is insane from other causes.²¹ My object was, and still is, to stay, if possible, the strong adverse current which is now setting against the cause of equal rights. Taking advantage of the destructive schemes of the loco foco party, as a weapon against the whole; the high-toned blue-light federalists have swept State after State from our ranks, till we are left with a mere fragment of strength among the people; but which, if prudently used, may be again swelled to a majority ere the present term of Mr. Van Buren expires. This being the case, my object is to snatch back from the federalists, this Congressional District, into whose grasp it is almost gone. But, in these trying times, instead of some man of talent and acquaintance with the people, and possessing other suitable qualifications, presented as our candidate; we have a young man who is not only the very spawn of that loco focoism which has crushed and destroyed our party in New York and several other smaller States; but who was actually foisted upon the party by the influence of a land office. That this last was the fact, Mr. D. denies; but I believe it to be true for what appears to me to be the best of reasons. It is not my purpose to denounce him; but I will say to him, that when he explains to me why he, that I heretofore called the man of expedients, felt so deep an interest in procuring his nomination, as to attend the primary meetings out of his own county; to have all the appointed delegates pledged to him be-

²¹As Lincoln might have said, "Put a pin here." This clever back-hand slap at Douglas' vanity is as characteristic of Lincoln as anything in the letters.

fore he would appoint them; to tell a falsehood in the Convention which he knew must be detected within a few hours at most; to communicate with a land officer in the north, urging him to be a candidate, and then deceiving him; and, lastly, to go to Vandalia at a most disagreeable season to procure the nomination of Colonel Stephenson, to appease his friends, whose complaints it was feared might be sufficiently loud to drive the Peoria nominee from the track—I say, when he will explain all these things, I pledge myself then to furnish him with some others which he knows to be in my possession, and which will readily enough occur to him on reading this.²²

I now again say to the Democratic party of this District, that if they wish their principles to continue in the ascendant; if they wish to again, as they have heretofore done, defeat the designs of the federalist party; if they wish to preserve true democracy as well in reality as in name, some other candidate must be placed upon the track. I have already given it as my opinion that a Convention fairly gotten up would be the proper method of bringing such a candidate before the people.

The Conservative.

The "Conservative No. 3" letter is merely a column of letters from Democrats in the district expressing the same sentiments as those expressed in the preceding letters. All the letters are anonymous except one, however. That one bears the signature of William L. May and is headed Dixon's Ferry, Rock River, December 11, 1837. May was the Democratic incumbent who lost the nomination to Douglas. The other letters sound strangely alike and fall very patly into "Conservative's" purpose and so may all be concoctions. A statement from "Conservative" at the end sounds like Lincoln again:

²²This should be compared with some of the paragraphs in which Lincoln piles up the charges against Adams.

"CONSERVATIVE"—ANOTHER LINCOLN PSEUDONYM?

Without admitting that those articles are slanderous, I answer that I refuse to sign my name to them, because I am no candidate for public favor, and consequently the people have no interest in my character; because, if my statements are false, Mr. Douglass can as easily show them to be so, without knowing my name as with it; and, *particularly*, because I know Mr. Douglass knows those statements are true, and is therefore inordinately desirous to divert public attention from them, by getting into a personal quarrel with me.

CONCLUSION

I offer these letters then as authentic additions to the Lincoln material. My proof of their authenticity is based on both external and internal considerations. For the first, Lincoln was in Springfield at the time, the columns of the *Journal* were open to him, and he was directly and immediately interested in this particular campaign. For the second class of evidence I submit that the cadence and rhythm of the prose is that of the early Lincoln, and that the arrangement of the argument is peculiarly in his manner. The letters abound in characteristic Lincoln marks—little original turns of phrase, the constant use of conditioning phrases and clauses, a liberal sprinkling of the same bits of idiom that Lincoln commonly used on other occasions, a considerable number of expressions familiar to students of Lincoln's writings, and shot through it all flashes of Lincoln's skill at humorous lampooning of his opponents. I doubt very seriously whether a piece of writing carrying all these marks could have been done by any other man living around Springfield in 1838.

THE BRANTON TAVERN

By

FLORENCE GRATIOT BALE

There is a special interest in the lives of the pioneers who made new homes in the great western part of our country. It is always interesting and inspiring for one generation to review the events that transpired when their generation was not on the scene of action.

Illinois is fortunate in having an artist with vision enough to preserve the historic spots of the state in pictures. He has taken his palette and brushes to its far corners and painted the landscapes, houses and buildings that are a part of the historical events that have taken place within its boundary. In the five years that Lane K. Newberry of Downers Grove has been painting his historical canvases he has made over one hundred valuable paintings that are an invaluable contribution to historical data, as well as visualizing the actual places where historical events transpired.

One of these paintings is "The Branton Tavern," situated off the main highway, seven miles northeast of Galena in Jo Daviess County. To reach it one travels over the route of the Frink and Walker stage line that was the first overland outlet the mining district had; and it connected the *village* of Chicago with the prosperous *city* of Galena. The road today is much as it was years ago, over steep hills that are rough and rocky, up and down, rounding sharp curves; but at every turn there is a picture. In the valley the de-

THE BRANTON TAVERN

serted mines that once were rich with ore, tell the story of the days gone by.

From the vantage points one can see the distant mounds in Wisconsin, Sinsinawa, the Platt and Belmont; and to the west the curve of Horse Shoe Mound and steep Pilot Knob, the old Indian and "Steamboat Lookout." Further to the west the distant bluffs along the Iowa shore of the Great River, which in the early days was the water highway for transportation and brought the steamboats up the lesser river "Le Fevre" into the heart of the lead mines, the lovely old town of Galena.

The history of the old Branton Tavern is unique in more than one way. First, it is in a livable state of preservation after almost a century of useful habitation, during which time America has passed its door in an historic procession. Pack horse, trains loaded with lead ore, ox carts, prairie schooners, covered wagons, Indian trails—all passed on to the west. And now the automobile; and one hears the flying mailplanes on their way to the western coast. It is a perfect example of early American architecture in its simple lines and utilized space.

Second, most unusual thing in this country, it has remained in the same family for three generations. The land on which it was built was granted to the grandfather of its present owner by President James K. Polk in 1848.

Third, it occupied an historic location, for it is built on the site of an important council that was held during the Black Hawk War in 1832. Chief Black Hawk and his Indian braves mounted on their wild ponies, retreated from the garrisoned town of Galena over the hills to the high point on the ridge and paused long enough for a council with Col. Henry Gratiot who was the Indian Agent for the government, and always a warm friend of the Winnebago



THE BRANTON TAVERN
From a painting by Lane K. Newberry,
Downers Grove, Illinois

tribe. Thomas Wiley, a scout of the militia commanded by Captain Clark at the block house in Galena, was present with a group of settlers and miners.

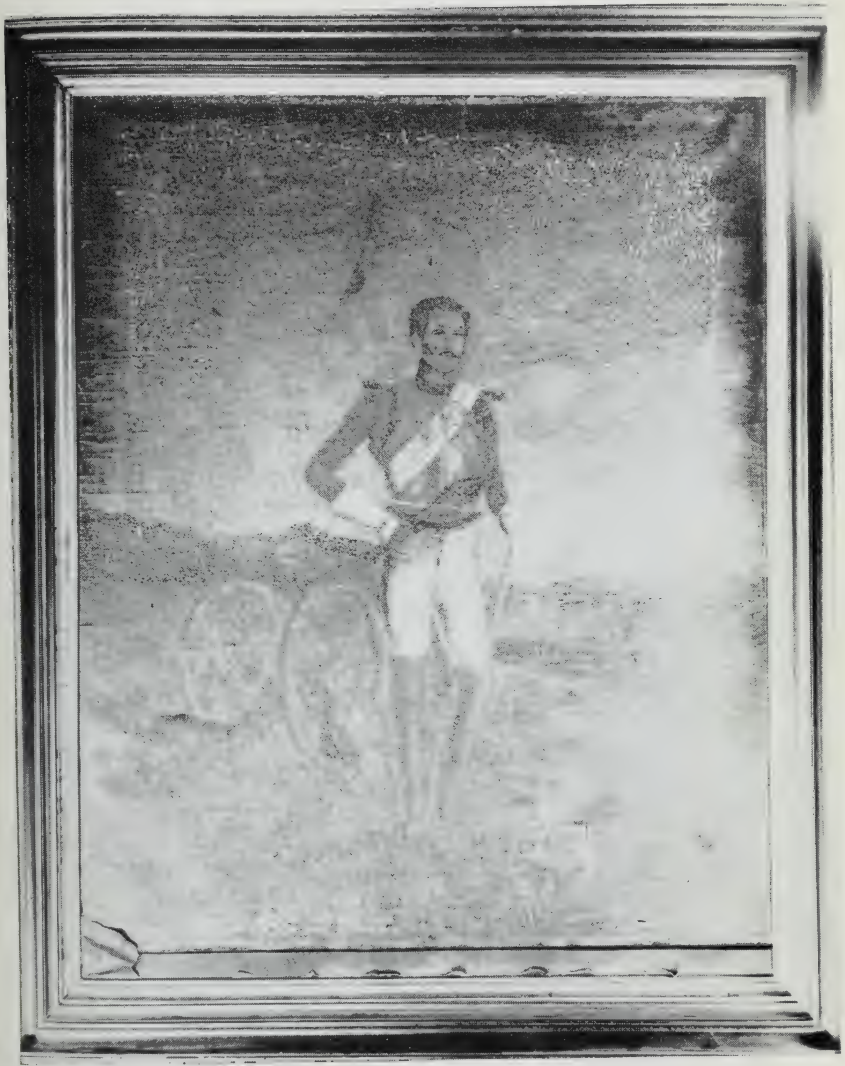
The council was held under a large white oak tree and was instrumental in soon bringing the war to a close. For years this site was called, "the Hill of Council," but when a village sprang up around it the name became "Council Hill."

In far-away England tales of the New Land and its wealth down deep in the earth, shining lead that would bring fortune for the digging of it, fostered dreams in the adventurous minds of the youth of that British Isle, and the desire to hasten to the distant wilderness of America became a plan in the lives of hundreds of Englishmen who were making a meager living in the Cornish mines.

There was a young man in the service of his country, belonging to one of its crack regiments, the "Queen's Guards" under the command of Lord Lygon, who was mentally deciding to cast his lot with the men who were flocking to the leadmine district in the Illinois country. He was (like the rest of his regiment) over six feet in height, highly trained in military discipline with a good education and a fine upright character. To turn his back on country, friends, sweetheart and doubtless promotion, took courage and strength of will; but this young man, Henry Branton, crossed the Atlantic in 1837; made the long journey west via stage and water and found himself embarked on the adventure of making a home in an unknown country and a new field of interest; for he was not versed in either farming or mining. Crossing the sea he fell in with many of his countrymen who were going to the new district with hope in their hearts and strong arms and bodies that could face the strenuous life of the pioneer. From this group he se-

lected his life-long friend, Thomas Harris, and together they made plans for the future. They went directly to Mineral Point from their place of landing in Galena; as it was the legal center of the Illinois district and all government grants came from that center. They found that hundreds of Cornish miners had staked their claims and mines at Mineral Point, building their dwellings out of the native limestone. A long row of them were side by side facing the hillside that was covered with the operations of the mines, each miner having his own little grub spot — this quaint group of homes, now over a hundred years old, is still in good condition and the name, "Shake Rag Lane," clings to them in spite of attempts to change it. It was so called from the custom of the miners' wives shaking a white cloth when it was meal time; and from the hillside the "Cousin Jacks" came running pellmell, for the dinner call was welcome enough; and pasty, Devonshire cream, currant buns and kidney pie were waiting for them inside the stone cottage cooked as only an English woman could cook them. These Cornish miners were able to obtain better ore from the ground than untrained miners, for their lives had been steeped in the mining atmosphere of Cornwall; and with their "Jack," "pick and gad" they knew how to delve into the earth for the ore that brought many of them fortune and fame; for they did not remain miners but became important and influential citizens in their adopted country and formed the backbone in the progressive movements of their state and town.

Mr. Branton threw his lot in with these sturdy pioneers and built his log cabin in the Council Hill locality that was now assuming the appearance of a settlement. His habitation was on "Nineva Lane," quite an aristocratic name when his neighbors called theirs "Dog Hollow," "Turkey Hollow," "Poseys Hollow" and "Vinegar Hill." (The latter



HENRY BRANTON
Portrait of Henry Branton in the uniform of the
Queen's Guards

has recently been excavated and found to be an Indian burial ground.) These cabins were built near a spring of water and the hillsides were dotted with banks of yellow clay, and the windlass that carried the buckets up and down the crudely built mines was always beside the excavated dirt from this mining settlement. After two years to become a part of it, by building a comfortable log house, making friends and learning to live in a new land, Henry Branton sent for his sweetheart in England. She was Alice Dixon, a governess in the home of his former chief officer, Lord Lygon. She came from a sea-faring family, so the crossing of the Atlantic had no unwarranted fear for her. Her father was Captain John Dixon and he owned a trading vessel that ran between Folkstone, England, and Rotterdam, Holland, called *The Anne* after his wife. Her brother, Captain Edward Dixon, was on a trans-Atlantic ship. So Alice Dixon crossed the sea in 1839, met her future husband at the dock; they were married in New York City, and turned their faces westward to the promised land of opportunity and to the log cabin he had built for her. This home soon became the center of the social life of the settlement.

Thomas Harris, the friend that Branton made when he was on the ocean headed for America, was living with the Branton's and in this circle the "Cousin Jacks" found a link that bound them to their "tight little island" so far away. Many of these men were uneducated and from the tutoring of the Branton's they learned to read and write and became influential citizens in state and country in after years.

To a young English girl who had little knowledge of the art of cookery or housework; whose occupation and education were along mere cultural lines, this new life proved her Spartan grit; for she determined to learn to bake the favorite Cornish pasty, saffron bread and currant biscuits

that were so necessary to the Cornish table. Her first attempt at making the "tea biscuits" was a direful failure. She had to bake them on the hearth and they were so hard that her husband and his friend Thomas rolled them down the hillside while the cook looked on with weeping eyes; but she did not let that first failure dismay her. Her cooking became noted for its excellent quality and quantity and no one was ever hungry in the Branton home.

An air of refinement followed these transplanted English people. They loved their few and rare books, their china and some good English and American furniture. Among the treasures from England was an oil painting of Henry Branton in his English army uniform, and a pair of fencing swords that he had used in London in that skillful art. They were guarded in the new home, but ready to be used if wandering Indians came near the mines or the cabins. Like all Englishmen, he was proud of his horsemanship and had beautiful well-bred mounts which he taught his wife to ride as well as he did.

By 1840 Mr. Branton began to look to some other field for development. The broad open hilltop above his "Nineva Lane" cabin with its four roadways going to the western and eastern settlements and to the north and south points of trade, looked like the place to establish a more up-to-date home and trading-post, as the stores were called. Prosperity was in the air of this new land. Smelters were erected near the mines to avoid the long overland haul of the lead to Galena. Gratiot's Grove over the line in Wisconsin was a busy settlement. Shullsburg, Hazel Green, New Diggings, Benton and Hamilton's Diggings were very important centers; all thriving during the great mining development. So the first part of the Branton Tavern was built on this "Council Hill" site.



MAP OF THE LEAD MINE REGION

From *The Tourist's Pocket Map of the State of Illinois*, by
J. H. Young, Philadelphia, 1834.

At Hamilton's Diggings in Wisconsin its enterprising founder Col. William Hamilton had a sawmill and 'tho it was fifty miles away, the heavy oak and walnut lumber was brought by team to build the new house. Soon the store was established in one end of the building. A little bit of everything was sold. The counter was of heavy walnut and ungainly. Scales were used to weigh the lead that was brought by the miners and their wives to exchange for groceries, drugs, gunpowder and calico. The long, tedious journey to Galena had to be avoided and the store did a thriving business. A special stock of peppermint and lemon candy was kept for the children who picked up scraps of loose lead and put it in their aprons and brought it to Branton's for their "candy sticks."

Galena was now a thriving city; the largest above St. Louis. Many of its people were building homes that were patterned after the New England and Southern Colonial mansions of their home states. Chicago was a village on the muddy site of Fort Dearborn, but the Frink and Walker stage line was connecting it with Galena, and the "Branton Tavern" was a relay station where weary, travel-worn passengers gladly remained over night before they proceeded on their rumbling way to Galena. An archway was built from the tavern to the horse barn and blacksmith shop. And one can picture the four-horse coach as it dashed under it upon its joyful arrival.

But more room was needed. The house did not accommodate either the family or guests, so it was enlarged in 1844. But the beautiful white oak tree to the east had to be sacrificed. To cut down and destroy it was like taking away the very history and heart of the hill. The Brantons could not forget the oft-told story of the treaty made under its shelter. They could visualize the scene and see the splendid type of the native red Indian in the figure of Black Hawk;

THE BRANTON TAVERN

the courtly French Gratiot who arbitrated and plead for peace; the scout, Thomas Wiley, and the Indians and miners in the background. These people seemed to re-inhabit the place and render a pleading voice for remembrance. But the tree *had to be cut down*. So off came its branches and the massive trunk was levelled at the stump, so it could support the floor of the new room as a beam underneath. And to this day, 1936, it has not been disturbed and the walnut floor is as good as the day it was put down.

The entire second floor was used for a ball room and many gay parties danced to the music of Jerry Ormond's lively fiddle until the wee hours of morning.

When the young English "Queen's Guard" was painting a rosy future in America to his Alice, he told her he would buy her a carriage "someday." Fair Alice faced many changes and hardships in her new home before her carriage arrived. But one day in the spring of 1850 her husband called her and said: "Alice, come and see your carriage." She looked down the highway and saw a string of buggies and carriages coming over land from Cincinnati and one was her long-promised Cinderella's coach. For years it was used and cherished by the Brantons for a "family carriage" was a crest of respectability and prosperity in that pioneer day.

Two sturdy sons and two daughters had been added to the family. They were Henry and Thomas, Alicia Ann and Georgiana. But Henry Branton did not live many years after he had established his home and family. He died November 25, 1858, and was buried in the Council Hill Cemetery, thirteen years after he had become an American by naturalization and nineteen years after he had left England. At the time of his death his son Henry was fifteen and Thomas was eleven. But in pioneer days boys became re-

sponsible for burdens of livelihood at an early age and these lads assumed the running of the store, tavern, and farm, without any thought of hardship, upon the death of their father. But the power that directed it all was their mother. With her wise counsel and management the plant was kept intact and each year land was added to the fifteen-acre grant that President Polk gave Henry Branton, until four hundred fertile acres comprised the estate.

Stage coach days were over. The Illinois Central Railroad had connected the district with the outside world. The mining rush was past. Galena was out-stripped by Chicago, and the Branton brothers became farmers. Fine pedigreed horses were an important part of their farm and one beautiful Arabian horse was sold from the string of thoroughbreds to Robinson's Circus and for many years led the old-time street parade. The rambling tavern became the home of the family only. Travelers did not need the haven of its restful roof. The store was kept as the importance of its "close at hand" merchandising was felt in the farming country that had gradually developed when mines and mining grew slim.

The furniture of the Branton home was always of the best early American type. Good china was thought necessary and on the walls many Currier and Ives prints were hung. Those prints were just coming into style.

The daughters married and left the homestead. Alicia married James Leece. Georgiana married Thomas Mayne and their descendants are living in the state of Iowa and at Galena at the present time. The oldest son remained a bachelor. Thomas, the youngest, married Catherine Mary Santry (always called Kate). She was a beautiful young woman, as lovely in disposition as she was in appearance, and entering into the home life of the Branton's with regard

THE BRANTON TAVERN

and honor for the woman who had kept the home fires burning under many obstacles. But Alice Branton welcomed this lovely young wife and for years they lived in greatest harmony. Kate Branton was always proud of the association she had with the "Sinsinawa Mound" Academy, St. Clara, and the pioneer priest, Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, the one who baptized her in his little missionary church in New Diggings.

One little daughter came to Kate and Thomas Branton and she was called Alice for her grandmother. This grandmother employed her time in making hooked rugs; and they were so rare and beautiful that a walnut chest was used to keep them in. And they were displayed like rare paintings. The sunset years of this Englishwoman's life was filled with the devotion of her family, and the long forty-two years, that passed after the death of her husband, has left happy memories with her descendants.

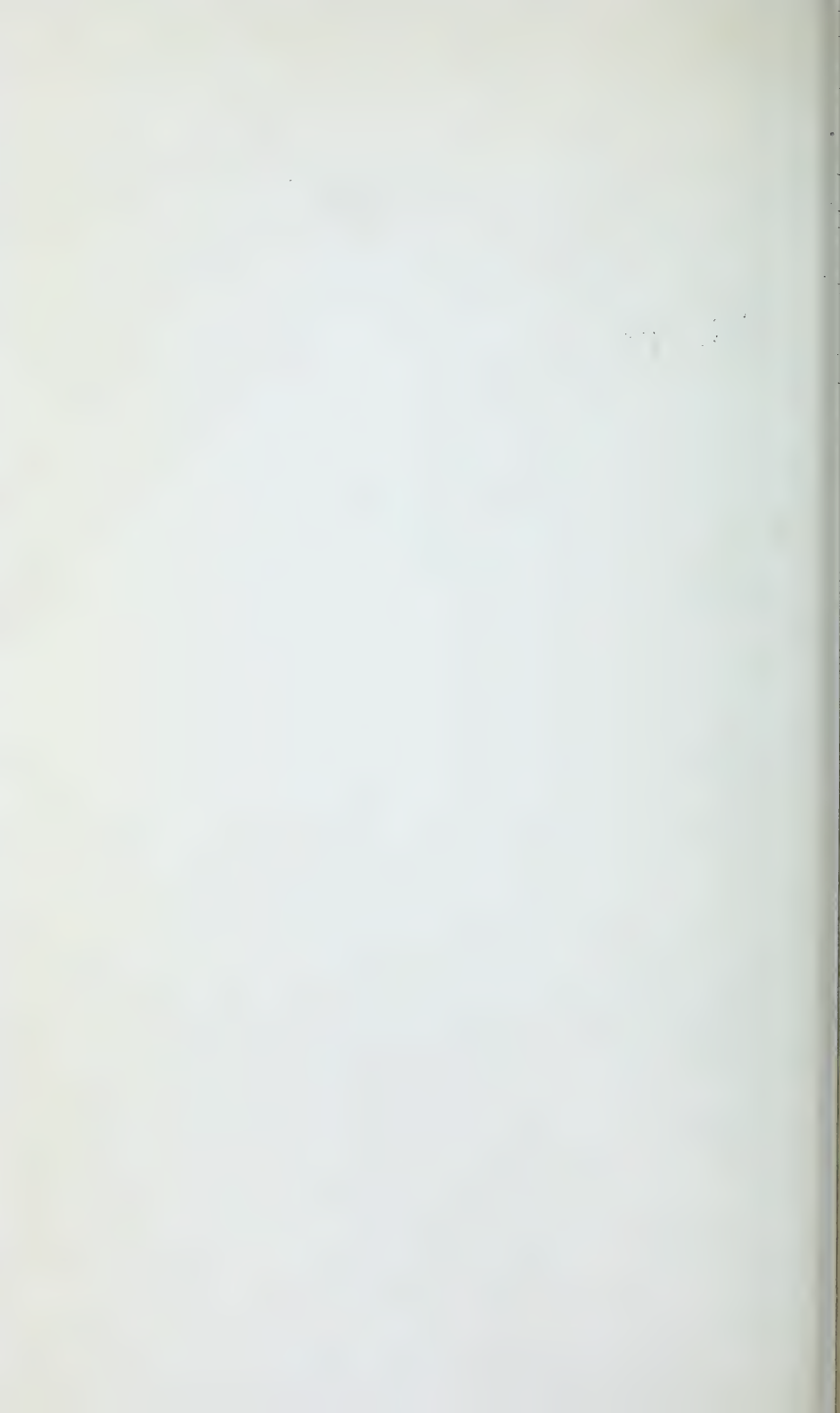
Henry Jr. died in 1914; Thomas in 1921; his wife, Kate, in 1931. Their daughter, Alice Branton Smith, is the last of the family to own and live in the "Branton Tavern." Her husband was Doctor W. Alder Smith of Galena, who was a surgeon on General U. S. Grant's staff. Doctor Smith's paternal grandfather was Gen. John E. Smith, one of Galena's nine generals who served their country in the Civil War. After Doctor Smith's death and her mother's going, Mrs. Smith has followed her profession of nursing in Rochester, Dubuque and Chicago, keeping the old historic home for a place of rest and vacation time.

It has many valuable heirlooms and keepsakes that are dear to her heart; for Alice Branton Smith is faithful to her love of history, antiques and traditions. But most of all, she loves "The Old Branton Tavern."



THE BRANTON TAVERN

The tavern as it is today (above)
The barn and blacksmith shop as they appear
now (below)



THE NAMING OF BLOOMINGTON

By

VERNON A. SYFERT

An old Indian trail passed through the vicinity of what was later known as Blooming Grove. What the Indians first called the beautiful grove of walnut, burr oak, white oak, and maple trees is unknown. When white trappers and traders began to come to this region they followed the Indian trails, and often made their camp at the northwest edge of the grove, at a series of springs, "now called Sulphur Springs at Hinshaw's (Grove), about one mile southwest of the Union depot and near the Chicago and Alton railroad." Other trails from the north and south crossed near here, which made this an important camping place for hunters, trappers and travelers. "There was considerable travel from the early settlements to French trading posts on the Wabash river in Indiana, and to Peoria on the Illinois river, and also a good deal from Lake Michigan to the French settlers at Cahokia, so that travelers were well acquainted with our grove and its camping site."¹

Tradition has it that the grove came to be known as Keg Grove, being so named by the Kickapoo Indians of the region. A party of white men hid a keg or kegs of rum or whiskey near this point, expecting to return for it later, but the *cache* was found by Indians who made merry for a time.

¹*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and McLean County*, Chicago, 1908; p. 680.

THE NAMING OF BLOOMINGTON

These Indians transferred the information of their find to the other Indians of the region, and they gave the beautiful grove the name Keg Grove.

Just when this incident is supposed to have occurred is not known. When John Hendrix and family and John W. Dawson came in April of 1882 the grove bore the name Keg Grove. After their settlement it was sometimes referred to as Hendrix Grove and Dawson's Grove.² But these names did not supplant Keg Grove. It was about 1824 that it was given the name Blooming Grove, although it was frequently referred to under its old name.

It was agreed by all that Keg Grove was not an appropriate name for the new settlement which was gradually increasing in size. There are two theories as to the origin of the name Blooming Grove. One is that "Mrs. William Orendorff suggested to some ladies who were visiting here, that the grove should be called Blooming Grove," on account of the flowers and foliage of the maple trees in the spring time. Duis also states that the name was suggested by another person about the same time. "At nearly the same time John Rhodes and Thomas Orendorff, the latter a brother-in-law of Mrs. William Orendorff, were out in the woods writing letters and Rhodes asked what name they should write at the head of their letters. Thomas Orendorff looked up at the maple trees and said: 'It looks *blooming* here, I think we had better call it Blooming Grove.'"³

Whether or not the name was original or copied from some other Blooming Grove is not known. However, the name was accepted, and later, happily, entirely replaced Keg Grove. Capt. John H. Burnham is quoted with the following: "Suppose Keg Grove had become transformed

²Duis, E., *Good Old Times in McLean County*, pp. 7 and 8.

³*Ibid.*

into Keg Town, how do you suppose Joe Fifer could have ever been elected governor of this state? Or how could Adlai Stevenson, of Keg Town, have been chosen vice-president of the United States? Even our good friend John Haggard would hardly have desired to drive his prohibition wagon from Keg Town."⁴

The exact origin of the name Bloomington for the seat of justice of McLean County is undetermined. James Allin established a store on what later became the southeast corner of East and Grove streets where the John McBarnes Memorial Building now stands, in March, 1830. Through his influence and that of Thomas Orendorff and James Latta, the county of McLean (named for John McLean, congressman from Shawneetown, who had died just a short time before) was established by an act of the Illinois legislature, in session at the state capital in Vandalia, December 25, 1830. Because of ill health Mr. Allin was unable to carry the petition to the legislature, but it was done by the other two men. The act of incorporation stated that the county commissioners were to locate the county seat and it was to be called Bloomington. Thus Bloomington existed as a town on paper before it was geographically located. Needless to say, Mr. Allin was interested in the location of the town and probably was secretly endeavoring to locate the town upon the land at the north side of Blooming Grove which claim he had bought from William Evans, and entered the quarter section of land from the government, so that he had a clear title to it.

The famous snow of the winter of 1830-31 prevented the county seat commission from assembling the "second Monday of February, or in five days thereafter." "A location was shown the commission in the Orendorff neighborhood.

⁴*Transactions of the McLean County Historical Society, War Record of McLean County and other Papers, 1899; p. 284.*

THE NAMING OF BLOOMINGTON

At this time, in fact from 1823, William and Thomas Orendorff were the most substantial settlers, or very nearly so, were very influential, and they were men who could, no doubt, have secured the county seat near them, in what was the oldest and best settled part of the grove, had they made the attempt.”⁵ Although they were in the most central portion of the grove and the most settled part of the county they did not wish to have a little town started in their neighborhood. “Mr. William Orendorff remarked that he would not have his farm cut up by a little town, and made no effort, though importuned by some of his neighbors.”⁶ “Mr. Allin was probably assisted in his schemes by the fact that the election in the Blooming Grove precinct in the fall of 1830, was held in the house of William Evans, in what is now the city of Bloomington. As Mr. Allin’s store was near there, and the voters were all called to meet at the north side of Blooming Grove, it is plain that public sentiment began to look with favor at what had now become a new center of interest, and it was plainly seen that new county, when organized, would be very likely to have its capital on some ground controlled by Mr. Allin,”⁷ Although tracts of land were viewed in Blooming Grove, Lytleville, and other neighborhoods all were rejected in favor of the two and one-half acres of land given by Mr. Allin. The sale of lots in the new town of Bloomington took place July 4, 1831. (It is interesting to note that the town of Bloomington was created on paper and the first sale of lots both on holidays; the former, December 25, 1830, and the latter, July 4, 1831.)

The origin of the name Bloomington for the seat of justice in the newly created county of McLean is seldom disputed. All writers upon the subject say it is a natural tran-

⁵*History of McLean County, Illinois*, 1879; p. 316.

⁶*Ibid.*

⁷*Transactions of the McLean County Historical Society*, pp. 288-9.

sition from Blooming Grove. But why not Blooming Town, Blooming City, Bloomfield, Bloomburg, Bloomville, or some similar name? Why not even call the new village Blooming Grove after the near-by grove? That is the question for which there is no definite answer. However, there has been a search to determine why the name Bloomington was selected.

There has always been a vague tradition that Bloomington, Illinois, was the first Bloomington in existence. While Adlai E. Stevenson was Assistant Postmaster General during Cleveland's first administration (1885-1889), he caused the postal records to be examined and sent the results to Capt. John H. Burnham. The records showed that Bloomington, Tennessee, postoffice was established in 1818, and Bloomington, Indiana, in 1823. The postoffice at Blooming Grove, Illinois, was established January 29, 1829, and in Bloomington, Illinois in 1832, which made the third Bloomington postoffice in the United States. The United States Postal Guide of 1935 lists Bloomingtons in the following states: California, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Texas, Utah and Wisconsin. Several of these other towns were named by people who lived in Bloomington, Illinois. For instance, Bloomington, Wisconsin, was named by a young lawyer who studied law in Bloomington, Illinois. It is a beautiful name and has struck the fancy of people who have heard it.

To trace further the naming of the town in Illinois, let us see who were probably responsible for the selection of the name.

James Allin was probably the one man who had the greatest influence upon the establishment of the county and the town. Although several of the other men, William and

THE NAMING OF BLOOMINGTON

Thomas Orendorff, John Hendrix and James Latta, and others of the community were interested in the project, it was Mr. Allin who was looking for more than just convenience in having a county established. Most of the early settlers came in search of homes. James Allin is credited with coming to Blooming Grove from calculation—not just happening to stop here because of favorable timber and farming land. He is presumed to have studied and noticed that a line drawn from the rapids of the Illinois River, near Starved Rock, through the state capital at Vandalia, to the growing town of Cairo would pass through this vicinity. Also the village of Chicago on the lake to the thriving towns of Alton and St. Louis made a direct line through this region. To substantiate his reasoning the reader will call to mind that the first railroads in the state, now the Illinois Central and the Chicago and Alton, passed through Bloomington. The old Indian trails, as mentioned previously, already converged near the settlement on the edge of the timber. The timber and nearby prairies afforded a place to hunt; drainage of land was good; and the springs and small creeks (branches of Sugar Creek) provided a source of water—certainly an ideal camping ground. The settlement of Blooming Grove was growing, for by 1830 there were nearly fifty families in the vicinity of the grove. Before coming to this new land Mr. Allin lived in Kentucky and Indiana, two years in Edwardsville, Illinois, and for eight years in the state capital of Vandalia. Certainly his abode in these places put him in contact with many people and he must have been well informed and gained many friends who helped him in forming his later course of action. He came to Blooming Grove in March, 1830, built a double log cabin and used part of it for a store. He

also built the first brick building in town, in 1839, at the corner of Center and Front streets.⁸

It is quite probable that James Allin knew of the Bloomington in Tennessee or Indiana before coming to this section of Illinois, as he had lived several places, and was a merchant by trade who would naturally meet many people, including travelers. It is probable he had considerable influence upon the citizens of Blooming Grove in the establishment of McLean County. That he knew the necessary steps in the procedure of creating a new county is evidenced by his keen interest in the matter, and his living for a time in the state capital no doubt gave him many political friends. At any rate, he was shrewd enough to locate on land where the new town was established and although he donated the land for the first portion of the town, later realized something from his land as the town grew. That Mr. Allin was popular with people is evidenced by his being twice elected to the senate of the Illinois legislature. It is not hard to understand why a man of his influence would play an important role in the naming of a town, with the history of which he is so closely connected.

⁸Freese, Dr. J. R., *Directory of Bloomington, 1854-55*, pp. 1-2. This is the first city directory of Bloomington.

A PLEA FOR OUR OLD GRAVEYARDS

By

SARA JOHN ENGLISH

A cemetery is a memorial, a record; not a mere field in which the dead are buried. A touching history of the people is written in old graveyards and family burial plots, and inscribed upon the slabs and gravestones, telling the story of the by-gone days, not of institutions, wars, governments or ideas, but of the lives of men, women and children.

No records in the world furnish us with so much that is suggestive, impressive and pathetic as these old graveyards, which are fast disappearing and ruthlessly being destroyed by the farmers of our land. Few of us seem to realize that within a few years there will be no way to find out who is buried in these cemeteries. The stones are falling and wearing away and the custom of burning the ground over each year has caused the sandstone slabs to crumble.

We had no death or birth records kept in Illinois until 1870, so unless a gravestone tells the facts, or a family Bible, or perhaps an obituary in later years, there is no record of the persons sleeping in our state who lived during its formative period. Our statesmen, pioneers and veterans sleep in these forsaken weed-covered spots.

A real and vital contribution to our state's history can be made by gathering, ere it is too late, the now remaining

inscriptions in our old cemeteries and by preserving the cemeteries. This work will be invaluable even to the posterity of generations yet unborn.

As we copy the dim legends on these discolored, worn gravestones, the faithful sentinels which have stood for long years to tell us who sleep there, we seem to conjure up a pageant of our country's early days. As we kneel to trace the faded inscriptions on the old gray stones we hear the tread of pilgrims and pioneers and catch glimpses of the refugees who sought a haven from oppression and tyranny, and we feel a reverence and a nearness to these "makers of our America" which has become the greatest and best country of the world.

As we move along, stumbling over logs and into the lairs of wild animals, and read of the brave deeds of those who won the freedom of our land, we hear the echo of the guns of the Revolution, hear the roar of the cannon of the War of 1812 and see the grim struggle of the soldiers to preserve our infant nation.

Before us pass the noble men and women who lived and wrought through years of hardship to give to us the blessings which we so richly enjoy, and we are inspired to rival what they have done. By copying and preserving the old graveyards of Illinois, we are not only aiding Illinois, but every state of the Union, for in the storms of migration twigs and branches of families were scattered all over our broad land. From the earliest times men have erected monuments to the heroes and great events in their national life, and when a nation ceases to do this or destroys such memorials it has already begun to decay. So it is with a family or a clan.

Graveyards of less than one hundred years standing are now denuded of all records or markers. As our early settlers

followed the westward star of hope many of them fell from exposure and hardships, and were buried by the wayside with no record of their passing. As a country we seem a heedless republic, ungrateful and careless of the memory of those gone before. We should remember that the present reaps what the past has sown and that we of today have reaped a bountiful harvest of blessings. History sacred and profane tells us of the respect, nay reverence, which has always been accorded the dead. In copying old graveyards and cemeteries, I have been deeply impressed by Benjamin Franklin's statement: "Show me first the graveyards of a country and I will tell you the true character of the people." Not only are our graveyards neglected, but vandals are plowing up the graves in the hope of obtaining one extra bushel of corn or oats, or using them for hog lots or cow pastures, and using the gravestones for walks to their barns and chicken houses, or for foundation stones for outbuildings. Not only do they disregard every decency of feeling and respect, but they violate our state law. The following passage from the Criminal Code (paragraph 355, chapter 38, Smith-Hurd Revised Statutes of Illinois, 1935) is in point.

Whoever willfully and maliciously injures, defaces, removes or destroys any vault, tomb, monument, gravestone or other memorial of the dead, or any fence or inclosure about the same, or about any cemetery or place of burial of the dead, or willfully cuts, breaks, removes or injures any tree, shrub or plant within any such inclosure, or about or upon any grave or tomb, or wantonly or maliciously disturbs the contents of any vault, tomb or grave, shall be fined not exceeding \$500, or confined in the county jail not exceeding one year, or both.

Is there a meaner or a more contemptible thief than he who steals the six feet of earth and the gravestone from the

dead? Great surprises and finds await those who visit country graveyards, for

Beneath the roots of tangled weeds afar
in country graveyards,
Lie the ones, whose un-crowned heads,
Have stamped this nation's destiny,
Beneath those tottering slabs of stone
Whose tribute moss and mould efface,
Sleeps the calm dust that made us great,
The true sub-stratum of our race.

When these men walked through life they left deep impressions upon Illinois. They formed and governed the state, veritably carved it, from the wilderness. Yet we are allowing their records and graves to be lost and destroyed. Within fifty years there will be great need for the history of these men, whose deeds are still rocking the world. They deserve our recognition. They are the building stones of this mighty republic.

In browsing through cemeteries I have learned whence the people came, of the plagues that swept localities, of the lack of comforts and medical care, evidenced by scores of young mothers who paid with their lives when infants came into the world and the unbelievable toll taken of infant life. I have found numerous Revolutionary War veterans, Sons of Cincinnati, veterans of the War of 1812, the men who settled and formed our great state, veterans of other wars who defended our land, governors, statesmen of many ranks, justices of the Illinois Supreme Court. "Historic spots are these old burial plots," which the English so tenderly call "God's Acre." It will be well for us to learn a lesson from the English, who have an inbred respect for the dead and their resting places.

One cemetery I visited I desired to learn of, as it was an impressive place. I was told: "See John Rinton." I called

upon him. He told me how he came to this country, purchased a lot, built upon it a modest home and soon noticed in the lot next to his, stones all but obscured by saplings, underbrush and weeds, and how it hurt him for "the fathers and mothers" of his adopted country to be so neglected. He cleared the place, raised the fallen stones, called upon the mayor of the town and the editors of the papers. By these means he aroused public interest in the place.

Soon a retaining wall was built, an iron fence erected around it and a large boulder with a massive bronze tablet was placed there in honor of the seven veterans of the War of the American Revolution, eleven veterans of the War of 1812, and veterans of our other wars, and prominent statesmen buried within its limits. Over their graves flew the American flag (from a stately pole), the flag for which these men had fought, sacrificed and labored to keep flying over our land. In other words these were men who had helped to make our nation great.

Was the Englishman the only person in that community who knew or cared to know who had lived, toiled and sacrificed to make that country a good and a desirable place in which to live?

We have only a few brief years in which to preserve the facts concerning our race. Ere this year passes many old graveyards will have been plowed under. Genealogy or the history of families is not a service to the past generations nor a glorification of the dead. It is a service to the living and to coming generations.

Many know more of the Egyptians four thousand years ago than of their own families or of our American people. When our western pioneers left their homes in the East or the South, they left records behind them. Possibly a family Bible was brought but in their crude homes, often by the

elements or fires, the Bibles were destroyed and families lost all contact with their "home folks." Thus, we see that gravestone inscriptions are in thousands of instances the only records we have of the birthdate, place of residence, name of wife, husband or children of our pioneers; and persons in the East or South have no knowledge of their relatives who migrated to the land of promise toward the setting sun. NOW is the time to mend these broken family chains and supply the lost or missing links. This can be done by preserving these cemetery records and sending them to our libraries and houses of records. "History is the sum of biographies," or a record of the people, not only the record of the great or wealthy. I beg of each man and woman to do all that is possible to save our "historic spots," the old graveyards.

We would do well to think of the veterans who sleep in Illinois' soil. To them we owe an imperishable debt. We talked of our love and gratitude to them, promised them much when there was "trouble in the wind." Let us again read Kipling's lines—"It's please to walk in front SIR, when there's trouble in the wind, and it's the savior of 'is country when the guns begin to shoot." But when all is over; "It's Tommy this and Tommy that, and Tommy fall behind. For it's Tommy this and Tommy that and chuck him out the Brute." May we ever hold OUR HEROES in grateful memory. Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet, lest we forget, lest we forget.

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THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL IN ILLINOIS HISTORY

The Illinois State Historical Society,
Springfield, Illinois.

Dear Sirs:

On May 14 Mr. L. A. Downs, President of the Illinois Central System, delivered a most interesting address before the Springfield Mid-Day Luncheon Club. Parts of his talk seemed to me to have so much historical interest that I have requested and received his permission to submit the following paragraphs to you for publication:

This year marks the centenary of the original Illinois Central Railroad Company in Illinois, a company whose incorporators included historic personalities in Illinois history. Although the company's charter was later relinquished to enable the State of Illinois to embody the Central Railroad project in the ill-fated Internal Improvement Plan of 1837, the idea of the railroad persisted. Finally in 1851 the Illinois Legislature, meeting in the old State House just a few steps from where we are gathered today, granted a new charter which brought the present Illinois Central Railroad Company into existence. That was more than eighty-five years ago. From that day to this the Illinois Central has been a factor of first importance to the state

in economic development, in transportation service, in the extent of its investments, in employment, in payrolls, in taxes, and probably in the volume of its annual expenditures for the products of Illinois mines and industries.

Between the state government of Illinois and the Illinois Central a closer historical relationship probably exists than between the state and any other railroad or any other commercial enterprise. Under its unique charter, the Governor of Illinois, upon taking office, automatically becomes a director ex-officio of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. The first governor to serve in that capacity was Augustus C. French, the ninth chief executive of the state. Governor Horner is the twenty-eighth person to hold the office of chief executive of Illinois since it attained the status of a state and the twentieth chief executive to serve on the directorate of the Illinois Central Railroad Company.

This unusual provision in the railroad's charter was due to special interest in the Illinois Central as a source of tax revenue as well as the leading transportation system in the state. Unlike any other railroad in Illinois, our railroad is required to pay into the state treasury a charter tax of 7 cents out of every dollar of gross revenue from the transportation of passengers, freight, express and mails on its original 705 miles of line extending from Chicago to Cairo and from Centralia to East Dubuque. For more than eighty years this charter tax has been one of the most important sources of state revenue, yielding the state more than \$88,000,000 to date, and since the provision goes on in perpetuity the charter tax will continue to yield the state many millions of dollars in the years to come.

For these reasons, it seems, as I have said, especially fitting that we should meet in Springfield, the birth-place of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, and join with the Governor of Illinois in celebrating a great

forward step in Illinois transportation progress symbolized by the Green Diamond.

The supremacy of the Iron Horse which challenged the stage horse of a century ago is now being challenged by the Diesel-electric of today. Chicago's first Iron Horse was the Pioneer. It was the speed marvel of its day. Imagine for a moment the Pioneer and the Green Diamond starting side by side from Central Station this morning. The Pioneer would have still been one hour away from Kankakee when the Green Diamond pulled into Springfield. It would arrive here at 10:15 o'clock tonight.

Truly the last 100 years have been a century of progress in transportation. Full details of a trip made by Daniel Webster about 100 years ago between St. Louis and Chicago are lacking, but it is known that he traveled part of the way by coach and that he was 16 days on the journey. The Green Diamond did it in less than 4½ hours last Friday.

Colonel Roswell B. Mason, the chief engineer in charge of the construction of the original lines of the Illinois Central Railroad, wrote a friend describing a trip which he and a companion made from Cairo to Chicago in those early days, and his experience so strikingly contrasts with present-day travel conditions that I am sure you will be interested in what he wrote:

"Leaving Cairo November 18," he said, "we reached Vandalia on the 23rd and Decatur on the 25th, with our team nearly exhausted and unable to go farther. The road was so bad it was thought nearly impossible to get through, and it was determined to go to Springfield, then to Alton by the newly completed railroad and into Chicago by water. We found it difficult to get a team to take us to Springfield, but an offer of fifteen dollars induced a liveryman to agree to take us there, about forty miles, in a day. Leaving Decatur Friday morning, November 26, we toiled

through mud, water and ice to a small town within twelve miles of Springfield, arriving about dark with our team tired out and unable to proceed. A train left Springfield at 8 o'clock the following morning. An offer of fifteen dollars more induced a man to take us there in time for the train or else forfeit the money. We started at 2 o'clock in the morning. It was very cold. Ice of considerable thickness formed on the water, cutting the horses' legs badly. We arrived at Springfield twenty minutes before the train left. He earned the fifteen dollars, and we had a comfortable journey to St. Louis, where we stayed over Sunday and took a steamboat Monday morning for La Salle, thence by packet boat to Chicago, where we arrived December 4."

Thus in 1852 Colonel Mason spent nine days traveling from Cairo to Springfield and seven days in getting from Springfield to Chicago—a total of sixteen days on the trip — to say nothing of the expense and discomforts of such a long and tedious journey.

When the first rail route was opened between Chicago and St. Louis in the 1850's, the schedule between these two cities was 24 hours. When the Illinois Central began operating its passenger trains between Chicago and St. Louis, through Springfield, in 1900 the time had been reduced to 8 hours — just one-third as long. The Green Diamond will separate these two cities by only 4 hours 55 minutes. Last Friday a party of Chicago Association of Commerce members breakfasted in Chicago, lunched as guests of the St. Louis Chamber of Commerce and dined in Chicago.

The first Illinois Central service between Chicago and Springfield was established shortly after the Gilman, Clinton & Springfield Railroad was completed in September, 1871. In 1872 the daylight run between Chicago and Springfield required 8 hours 45 minutes,

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and the Green Diamond will make it in 3 hours 2 minutes—about one-third the time.

The economical importance of increased train speeds is patent to every business man. We cannot reduce the geographical distance between our cities, but we can and are reducing the time distance. The practical effect is to bring communities closer together and thus to promote business, friendship and understanding between these centers of activity.

If you see fit to publish this extract, will you please send a copy of the *Journal* to Mr. Downs?

Very truly yours,

Henry Horner.

Executive Mansion,
Springfield.

LINCOLN SPOKE IN ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, 1848

An item, reported in the *National Intelligencer*, Tuesday, August 29, 1848, reveals that Abraham Lincoln made "a most interesting speech" in Rockville, Maryland, on the night of Saturday, August 26, 1848. The paragraph in point states:

The Whig Convention of Montgomery county (Md.) met at Rockville on Saturday last, and nominated Wm. Ligan Gaither, Esq. for re-election to the State Senate.

On the night of the same day the *Rough and Ready Club* held a meeting in the Court-house, and was ad-

dressed in a most interesting speech by the Hon. Mr. Lincoln, of Illinois.

The reference serves to identify one of the occasions to which Lincoln pointed in the brief autobiography he wrote for campaign purposes, in 1860: "In 1848, during his term in Congress," stated Lincoln, "he advocated General Taylor's nomination for the presidency, in opposition to all others, and also took an active part for his election after his nomination, speaking a few times in Maryland, near Washington, several times in Massachusetts, and canvassing quite fully his own district in Illinois, which was followed by a majority in the district of over 1500 for General Taylor."¹

The *National Intelligencer*, September 5, 1848, also included Lincoln's name in the list of speakers "expected to address the meeting" called for that evening in Washington:

Whig Mass Meeting

Anniversary of the Defence of Fort Harrison

The Whigs of Washington will celebrate the anniversary of the Defence of Fort Harrison, the first of the glorious achievements of the gallant *Zachary Taylor*, the Whig candidate for President, by a Mass Meeting at their Platform, on Tuesday evening, the 5th of September, at 7 o'clock. All friends of Taylor and Fillmore in the District and surrounding counties of Maryland and Virginia, as well as our Democratic friends, are invited to attend.

¹*Complete Works*, Nicolay and Hay, The Century Co., 1920; I, p. 643.

HISTORICAL NOTES

The Hon. J. E. Brady, of Pennsylvania, Hon. A. Lincoln, of Illinois, Hon. J. M. S. Causin, Thos. F. Bowie, Thos. G. Duckett, and Z. Collins Lee, Esqs. of Maryland, and L. Fitzgerald Tasistro, Esq. of New York, and others, are expected to address the meeting on this interesting occasion.

Since the *Intelligencer*, apparently, made no mention of the rally in subsequent issues, it is not known whether or not Lincoln filled this engagement. But the Rockville event, so far as shown by the records, appears to mark the beginning of Lincoln's activity for General Taylor on the stump, outside of Washington.

Earl W. Wiley.

The Ohio State University,
Columbus, Ohio.
April 30, 1936.

HELEN FRANCES EPLER: AN EXPONENT OF ILLINOIS LEADERSHIP IN THE NATIONAL EDUCATION OF WOMEN

Helen Frances Epler, a notable educator of women and daughter of an old Illinois family, died October first, 1933.

Her father, Cyrus Epler, B. A. Illinois College, 1847, was a lawyer, state's attorney, member of the Legislature and Senate for several terms, and Judge of the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit of Illinois for twenty-four years; grandson of Captain Charles Beggs, an officer in the War of 1812

and a member of the Constitutional Convention of Indiana, brother of James Beggs, President of the Convention.

The family represented the best traditions of New England through the mother, Cornelia Nettleton Epler, who was of Connecticut parentage, a daughter of Dr. Clark Nettleton of Racine, Wisconsin, a graduate of Yale, and Anne Holbrook Nettleton who was of most distinguished Colonial and English ancestry.

Helen Frances Epler received her early education in Jacksonville. Her ambition for higher learning led to her entering Vassar College at the age of sixteen from which college she received her degree.

In head as well as in heart she was the exponent of Illinois Women's Educational Leadership in the Nation.

She was a teacher of the French language at Vassar College for fifteen years. In a memorial from her college this estimate among other data was sent: "Miss Epler will always be remembered for her high scholarship, fine teaching and exquisite refinement."

To attain her high proficiency in the French language and literature, she made nearly a score of sojourns in Europe, studying at the Sorbonne in Paris and University of Berne, Switzerland.

Art had a fascination for her; she spent much time in the galleries of Europe.

Helen Frances Epler was a scholar but all her life, a student. As a lover of nature, she was familiar with botany and astronomy as well as a close follower of the events of the day.

HISTORICAL NOTES

She saw her brothers following in her grandfather's footsteps, beating the path back to old Yale, which was the college that furnished the Yale Band that founded "Old Illinois."

A Friend.

Jacksonville, Illinois.

HISTORICAL NEWS

The thirty-seventh annual meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society, held in Peoria on May 15 and 16, was one of the most successful meetings in the society's history.

The sessions opened with a luncheon conference attended by twenty-five representatives of local historical societies. Short talks were made by several of those present, and a general exchange of ideas took place. The luncheon adjourned in order that those present might attend the Illinois History session at Bradley College, where papers were presented by Theodore C. Pease of the University of Illinois, Earl W. Hayter of McKendree College, and Nell Blythe Waldron of the Illinois State Normal University. These papers will be published in the *Transactions* of the Illinois State Historical Society for the year 1936.

On the evening of May 15 seventy-five persons attended the society's dinner at the Pere Marquette Hotel. After an informal talk on the beginnings of the state park system by President James A. James, Mr. Robert Kingery, Director of the Department of Public Works and Buildings, spoke on the subject, "The State Parks and Illinois History," illustrating his talk with views of a number of the parks.

The Society's annual business meeting took place on the morning of May 16. The last event on the program was the luncheon conference of college history teachers, attended by fifty representatives of Illinois colleges and universities.

In view of the fact that the Society's annual meetings have been held in Springfield for many years, the Peoria meeting was in the nature of an experiment. The attendance was so satisfactory, and the enthusiasm so evident, that in all probability each succeeding annual meeting will be held in a different city. In 1937 the Society will meet in Galesburg, which celebrates its own centennial, and that of Knox College, at that time.

In May the West Side Historical Society, Chicago, issued the first number of an attractive and interesting *Bulletin*, devoted to news of the Society and short items of historical interest to residents of the region. This issue carries the story of a photographic contest recently conducted by the society. Prizes totalling \$50 were awarded for the most interesting historical photographs submitted to a committee. By this means a large number of interesting and valuable pictures were brought to light and assured of preservation.

The West Side Historical Society was organized six years ago, and now has a membership of 400. Otto Eischiml is President; Miss Martha Seewar, Secretary-Historian; and John C. Miller, Editor of the *Bulletin*. The society's headquarters are in the Henry E. Legler Regional Branch Library, 115 So. Crawford Avenue at Monroe Street.

Under the leadership of E. F. Norton of Neponset a Bureau County Historical Society has been organized, and arrangements have been made for quarters in the new Bureau County courthouse at Princeton. The society will be incorporated and organized to receive loans, gifts, and engage in other appropriate activities.

An Illinois historical society of recent origin is the Pioneer Daughters of Williamson County. Formed last year, the society has a present membership of 300. It was organized to collect and preserve the history of Williamson County and to prepare for a centennial celebration in 1939. Among other achievements, the society has ascertained that six soldiers of the American Revolution — Philip Russell, John Duncan, Benjamin Gill, John Damron, Lewis Corder and Lewis Keaster—are buried in Williamson County, and has arranged for the erection of government markers on the graves which are now unmarked.

The Aurora Historical Society was recently the recipient of a splendid gift in the form of the homestead of W. A. Tanner, one of the city's pioneers. The donation was made by Mary T. Hopkins and Martha T. Thornton, heirs of Mr. Tanner.

The Tanner home, one of Aurora's landmarks, was built in 1857. It is a two-story brick structure of seventeen rooms, located in a large, beautifully shaded lot.

The Aurora Historical Society has a large collection of prints, papers and objects of historical interest which will be transferred to the Tanner home in the near future.

Citizens of Versailles, Brown County, are planning an extended celebration of the town's centennial during the late summer or fall of the current year. Versailles was laid out on twenty-two acres of ground purchased from Hamilton Nighswonger, November 2, 1836. On the same day the town was named by Mrs. Henry Casteen in honor of her former home, Versailles, Kentucky.

The city of Lincoln will celebrate its centennial during the summer, probably in the month of July. Lincoln was

not founded until the 1850's, but it now covers the site of Postville, which came into existence one hundred years ago. For several years Postville was the seat of Logan County, and Abraham Lincoln visited the town as a member of the traveling bar of the eighth judicial circuit. Years later the present city of Lincoln was named in his honor.

On May 17 the pealing of church bells announced to the residents of Wilmington, Will County, that the town's first century had been completed. The event was marked by observances lasting two days. These included a parade, an old settlers' banquet, and a pageant, "Wilmington Yesterday and Today," in which 400 persons took part.

In early June the city of Elmhurst, suburb of Chicago, celebrated its one hundredth anniversary. The celebration included a pageant with a cast of 1,000 participants and a flower show sponsored by leading amateur and commercial gardeners of the vicinity.

Solon Robinson, Pioneer and Agriculturist, is the title of Vol. XXI of the Indiana Historical Collections, recently issued by the Indiana Historical Bureau, Indianapolis. The volume is devoted to selections from Robinson's writings from 1825 to 1845, with notes and an introduction by Dr. Herbert A. Kellar, Director of the McCormick Historical Association.

Robinson was probably the foremost agricultural writer in the United States prior to the Civil War. Since he resided in Indiana during most of the period covered by this volume, and was thoroughly familiar with agricultural conditions in Illinois, readers of the *Journal* who are interested in agricultural history will find his writings of unusual value. Those who have no particular interest in the history

of farming will find Robinson's account of a tour through Illinois in 1845, reprinted here from the Albany *Cultivator*, a valuable contribution to the literature of travel and description relating to this state.

Some Early Medical History of the Upper Des Plaines Valley, Illinois, is the title of a pamphlet recently written and published by Dr. Clarence A. Earle, of Des Plaines. The pamphlet is devoted in the main to a sketch of the life of Dr. John A. Kennicott, one of the first physicians of the Des Plaines region. Dr. Kennicott was also an enthusiastic horticulturist, a president of the Illinois State Horticultural Society and the American Pomological Society, and secretary of the Illinois State Agricultural Society. He lived from 1802 to 1863. Doctor Earle, the author, has practised medicine in the Des Plaines region for nearly half a century, and has been actively investigating the history of his neighborhood and state for most of his life.

Mr. Frank H. Craig, of Kewanee, Illinois, and Waits River, Vermont, has recently published his autobiography in an attractive booklet of fifty-five pages.

Mr. Craig was born in Stark County, Illinois, in 1860, the descendant of a Scotch immigrant who settled in Connecticut in 1784. After attending district schools Mr. Craig himself became a teacher, a profession which he followed until his retirement in 1923. Since then he has divided his time between Kewanee and his summer home in Vermont, and has devoted a part of his leisure to writing.

His autobiography is an interesting and valuable record of life in Illinois during the latter part of the nineteenth century.

HISTORICAL NEWS

A marker commemorating the site of the massacre of the family of John Lively in 1813, during the War of 1812, was erected near Covington, Washington County, on May 3. The marker, a handsome stone monolith, was erected with funds subscribed by the citizens of the county.

"Peoria on Parade" is the title of a 136 page edition of the *Peoria Journal-Transcript*, issued on May 24, 1936. Section One of five special sections deals with the history of Peoria, and is chiefly the work of Ernest E. East, President of the Peoria Historical Society and a director of the Illinois State Historical Society. Other sections deal with commerce, industries, civic and governmental activities, and transportation. Many photographs enhance the value of the "Peoria on Parade" edition as an historical document.

CONTRIBUTORS

Temple Bodley, of Louisville, Kentucky, is best known for his biography, *George Rogers Clark, His Life and Public Services*. His paper, "George Rogers Clark and Historians," appeared in our *Transactions* for 1935. Harry L. Spooner now resides in Peoria. Indian subjects and the history of the piano are avocations. Glenn H. Seymour is a member of the history faculty of the Eastern Illinois State Normal University. Florence Gratiot Bale knows Galena intimately from family tradition. She now lives in Rockford. Vernon A. Seyfert was formerly on the staff of the McLean County Historical Society. Mrs. Sara John English, one of the Society's directors, has been instrumental in recording and marking the graves of hundreds of Illinois soldiers.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

By

WILLIAM D. BARGE and NORMAN W. CALDWELL*

Abingdon

City in Knox County, named from Abingdon, Maryland, the birthplace of one of the founders. Gannett, *The Origin of Certain Place Names in the United States*, p. 15 (cited hereafter as "Gannett").

Adams

County, named for John Quincy Adams, President of the United States, 1825-1829. Gannett, p. 16.

Adeline

Village in Ogle County, named for the wife of Thomas J. Turner, a prominent attorney in Freeport. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 296.

*The basis of this study of Illinois place-names was a manuscript prepared a number of years ago by the late William D. Barge of Chicago. When increasing interest in the subject seemed to make its publication advisable Norman W. Caldwell undertook the revisions and corrections which the lapse of time had made desirable. Mr. Caldwell checked the author's sources and supplied page references, condensed some of the original entries and amplified others, and supplied material relating to the more important towns, cities and counties which Mr. Barge had omitted. While the study remains primarily the work of Mr. Barge, Mr. Caldwell's contribution to its present form has been a most important one.

For purposes of convenience, in this study places with populations smaller than 1,000 have been designated villages, those having from 1,000 to 2,500 inhabitants have been called towns, and those of 2,500 and more have been described as cities. A complete bibliography may be found at the end of the article.

William D. Barge, the author of the original study, was born in Dixon, Illinois. After receiving an education in the Dixon public schools he was admitted to the bar and commenced practice in Chicago. There, for a time, he served as assistant corporation counsel, later joining the legal staff of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railway. Historical research was his life-long avocation. He died in Chicago in 1921.

Norman W. Caldwell is head of the Department of History and Political Science at the College of the Ozarks, Clarksville, Arkansas.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Adrian

Village in Hancock County, named from the city in Michigan. Gregg, *History of Hancock County*, p. 861 (cited hereafter as "Gregg"). The Michigan city was named for Hadrian, Roman Emperor, 117-138 A. D. Gannett, p. 17.

Aetna

Village in Coles County, named for the volcano in Sicily. The Greek *aithein* means "to burn." Ackerman, *Early Illinois Railroads*, p. 128 (cited hereafter as "Ackerman").

Agnew

Village in Whiteside County, named for a former storekeeper there. The place was formerly called Rock Island Junction. *Barge Manuscript* (cited hereafter as "*Barge MS.*").

Akron

Village in Peoria County, named for the city in Ohio. The word is Greek for "summit" or "peak." Stennett, *A History of the Origin of the Place Names Connected with the Chicago and Northwestern and Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railways*, p. 35 (cited hereafter as "Stennett").

Albany

Town in Whiteside County, named for the city in New York, which was named for the Duke of York, afterwards James II of England, and whose Scotch title was Duke of Albany. Gannett, p. 19.

Albion

Town in Edwards County, named by early settlers from the ancient appellation for England. Gannett, p. 19.

Alden

Village in McHenry County, named by Frank Wedgewood, an early settler, for John Alden of Puritan fame. Stennett, p. 36.

Aledo

City in Mercer County, named for Aledo in Spain at the fancy of an early settler. Gannett, p. 20.

Alexander

County, named for Dr. William Alexander, a pioneer physician of that county. Gannett, p. 20.

Alexander

Village in Morgan County, named for John T. Alexander, a prominent landowner. Gannett, p. 20.

Alexis

Town in Warren County, named for Alexis, Crown Prince of Russia. Gannett, p. 20.

Algonquin

Town in McHenry County, named, according to one story, by Samuel Edwards, an early settler, for a vessel on which he had served. Gannett, p. 20. The word is from the Micmac *algoomeaking*, or *aloomaking*, meaning "at the place of spearing fish and eels". The Algonquian was one of the chief linguistic stocks of the American Indian. Hodge, *Handbook of American Indians*, I, p. 38 (cited hereafter as "Hodge").

Alhambra

Village in Madison County, named for the palace in Spain. Gannett, p. 21.

Alleghaney

Village in Williamson County, named from the Indians of that name. The Alleghany were Shawnee and Delawares who resided on the Alleghany River. Hodge, I, p. 45.

Allendale

Village in Wabash County, named for a railroad contractor. Gannett, p. 21.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Allerton

Village in Vermilion County, named for Samuel Allerton, founder of the village and extensive land owner. Gannett, p. 21.

Allin

Town in McLean County, named for James Allin, a pioneer. Gannett, p. 21.

Alma

Village in Marion County, formerly called Rantoul. The name is taken from the name of the battlefield in the Crimea, which was the scene of the battle between the Allies and the Russians, Sept. 20, 1854. Gannett, p. 22.

Alpha

Village in Henry County, named from the first letter in the Greek alphabet which signifies "the beginning." Gannett, p. 22.

Alta

Village in Peoria County, named from its location at the "highest" point on the railroad between Rock Island and Peoria. Gannett, p. 22.

Alton

City in Madison County, named by Rufus Easton, the founder, for his son. Gannett, p. 22.

Alto Pass

Town in Union County, so called from its location at a notch or pass in the Ozark uplift; hence its name meaning "high pass." Gannett, p. 23.

Amboy

Town and township in Lee County. The town was named from the township which was named by an early settler, Miles Lewis. Stevens, *History of Lee County*, I, p. 273 (cited hereafter as "Stevens"). According to one authority, the word is of Indian origin and means "hollow inside." Gannett, p. 23.

Ancona

Village in Livingston County, named from the city in Italy. Gannett, p. 24.

Andalusia

Township and village in Rock Island County, named from the ancient province in Spain. Gannett, p. 24.

Annawan

Town in Henry County, named for the Massachusetts chief, who was counselor to King Philip and succeeded him as chief of the Wampanoags. Gannett, p. 25; Hodge, I, pp. 58-59.

Antioch

Town in Lake County, named from the city in Syria. Gannett, p. 26.

Appanoose

Town and township in Hancock County. The word in the Ojibway dialect of the Algonquian means "child," or "chief when a child." This was also the name of a Sac chief. Haines, *The American Indian*, p. 709. (This is cited hereafter as "Haines").

Apple River

Township and village in Jo Daviess County. Both take their names from Apple River which is "so called from the number of crab-apple trees on its banks." Ackerman, p. 139.

Aptakisic

Village in Lake County, named from an Indian word meaning "half day" or "sun at meridian." Gannett, p. 27; Haines, p. 709.

Arcola

Town in Douglas County, named from the town in Italy by a Mr. Kearney, former postmaster at the place. Previous to 1871 it was known as Okaw, from the river of that name. Ackerman, p. 128.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Arenzville

Village in Cass County, named for Francis A. Arenz, pioneer settler. Gannett, p. 28.

Argyle

Village in Winnebago County, named by John Andrew, an early settler, for Argyleshire, Scotland. It was formerly called Kintyre. Stennett, p. 38. Another authority says it was named from the city in Scotland. Gannett, p. 28.

Aroma

Township in Kankakee County, named by James L. Romer "in a play upon his name." Beers, *Atlas of Kankakee County*, p. 126.

Arrowsmith

Village in McLean County, named for Daniel Arrowsmith, its founder. Gannett, p. 29.

Arthur

Town in Douglas County, named for Arthur Hervey, a brother of the founder. Gannett, p. 29.

Arthur Slough

A lake outlet in Crawford County, named from a negro family which settled in that vicinity soon after the War of 1812. Allen, "Palestine, Its Early History," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, X, p. 122.

Ashkum

Village in Iroquois County, named for a Potawatomi chief who was located in what is now Miami County, Indiana. Hodge, I, p. 101. The word is said to mean "more and more." Gannett, p. 30.

Ashland

Town in Cass County, named for the home of Henry Clay. Eames, *Historic Morgan and Classic Jacksonville*, p. 17 (cited hereafter as "Eames").

Ashley

Town in Washington County, named for Col. L. W. Ashley, a former Division Superintendent of the Illinois Central Railroad. Ackerman, p. 133.

Ashmore

Village in Coles County, named for the founder, Hezekiah J. Ashmore. Gannett, p. 30.

Assumption

Town in Christian County, formerly known as Tacusah. This word is the name of a tribe formerly living on the Yazoo River in Mississippi. Hodge, II, pp. 691-692. The name was changed to the present form in 1859 at the request of E. E. Malhoit of Assumption, Canada, who purchased a large tract of land in this vicinity. The Assumption (Aug. 15) is a festival of the Roman Catholic Church. Ackerman, pp. 148-149.

Astoria

Town in Fulton County, named for the Astor family of New York. The place was first called Vienna. Gannett, p. 31.

Athens

Town in Menard County, named from the city in Greece. Gannett, p. 31.

Atkinson

Town in Henry County, named for its founder, Charles Atkinson. Gannett, p. 31.

Atlanta

Town in Logan County, named from the city in Georgia, which was so called "to designate its relationship to the Atlantic Ocean, by means of a railway running to the coast." Gannett, p. 32.

Atwood

Town in Piatt County, named from its location at the edge of the woods. Gannett, p. 32.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Augusta

Town in Hancock County, named from the city in Georgia, the home of the first settlers, and which was named for Princess Augusta of the reign of George II. Gannett, pp. 32-33.

Aurora

City in Kane County, named by James McCarly, one of the original owners of the site, from the city in New York. Stennett, p. 40. The Iroquois village on the site of Aurora, New York was called *Deawendote*, which means "constant dawn." Morgan, *League of the Iroquois*, II, p. 133 (cited hereafter as "Morgan").

Austin

Village in Cook County, now a suburb of Chicago, named for Henry W. Austin, the founder. Gannett, p. 33.

Auxier

Creek in Hamilton County, named for a pioneer settler. Warner and Beers, *Atlas of Illinois*, p. 192 (cited hereafter as "Warner and Beers").

Ava

Township in Jackson County, said to have been named by making a random selection from Webster's Unabridged Dictionary. Brink-McDonough, *History of Jackson County*, p. 113.

Averyville

City in Peoria County, named from the Avery Manufacturing Company, whose plant is located here. Gannett, p. 33.

Avon

Town in Fulton County, named from the village in New York, which was named from the river in England. Gannett, p. 33.

Baileyville

Town in Ogle and Stephenson Counties. That part in Stephenson County was named for O. Bailey, an early settler. Gannett, p. 34.

Bang's Lake

Lake in Lake County, named for Justus Bangs, an early settler. Bateman and Selby, *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Lake County*, p. 630 (cited hereafter as "Bateman and Selby, History of Lake County").

Bardolph

Village in McDonough County, named for William H. Bardolph, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 36.

Barrington

Town and township in Cook County, named for Great Barrington, Massachusetts, the home of several of the first settlers. Goodspeed and Healy, *History of Cook County*, II, p. 277 (cited hereafter as "Goodspeed and Healy").

Barry

Township and city in Pike County, first named Barre, from the town in Vermont, and changed to the present form at the instance of the Post Office Department. Gannett, p. 37. There is a story to the effect that the present spelling came about due to the fact that a clerk in the Post Office Department, in reading a petition for the establishment of a post office at this place, and baffled by the very poor writing, read Barry for Barre. The place was first called Worcester. *Barge MS.*

Batavia

Township and city in Kane County, named for the town in New York, which was named for the Batavian Republic. Gannett, p. 38.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Battle Ground

Creek near old Kaskaskia, so called from a battle fought in that vicinity between the Kaskaskia Indians and their enemies, the Cahokia, in 1782. Gannett, p. 39.

Baylis

Village in Pike County, named for a railroad official. Gannett, p. 39.

Beardstown

City in Cass County, named for Thomas Beard, the founder. Gannett, p. 40.

Beecher City

Village in Effingham County, named for Charles A. Beecher, a railway solicitor. Gannett, p. 41.

Belknap

Township and village in Johnson County, named for a prominent railroad man. Gannett, p. 41.

Belleflower

Township and village in McLean County, named by the early settlers from the fields of bell-shaped flowers found there. Gannett, p. 42.

Belle Rive

Village in Jefferson County, named for Louis St. Ange de Bellerive, the French officer who surrendered the Illinois to the British in 1765. *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, XIV, p. 146.

Belleville

Township and city in St. Clair County, named in the French by John Hay, a French-Canadian, prominent in the early days of the state. Gannett, p. 42. Another authority has it that it was named by George Blair who owned the land upon which it was located. Reynolds, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, p. 378.

Bellemont

Village in Wabash County, named for Robert S. Bell, a county judge, *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, XIII, p. 322.

Belvidere

City and township in Boone County, named by one of the founders for his birthplace in Canada. Gannett, p. 43. Another authority has it that it was named "by Samuel P. Doty, the first white settler, who claimed that he named it at the suggestion of Mark Beaubien, an early French settler of Chicago, who fancied the country around it resembled Belvidere near Weimar in Saxe-Gotha, Germany." Stennett, p. 43.

Bement

Town and township in Piatt County, named for a United States surveyor. Gannett, p. 43.

Benld

City in Macoupin County, named for Benjamin L. Dorsey, the founder of the Dorsey family of this county. The name is made up of the syllable "Ben" from Mr. Dorsey's given name, and the initials "L" and "D," which were also taken from his name. Stennett, p. 43.

Benson

Town in Woodford County, named for S. H. Benson, former General Freight Agent of the Chicago, Peoria and Southwestern Railway, now the Atkinson, Topeka and Santa Fé. Moore, *History of Woodford County*, p. 205 (cited hereafter as "Moore").

Benton

City in Franklin County, named for Thomas Hart Benton, United States Senator from Missouri, 1821-1850. Gannett, p. 43.

Berwyn

City in Cook County, named by P. S. Eustis, Passenger Traffic Manager for the Chicago, Burlington and

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Quincy Railroad, in memory of the suburb of Philadelphia in which he was reared. Cutshall, "A Gazetteer of the Origin of Illinois Nomenclature," p. 9 (cited hereafter as "Cutshall").

Bethalto

Village in Madison County. The name was changed to the present form from Bethel in order to distinguish it from another post office of the same name. Gannett, p. 45.

Biggsville

Village in Henderson County, named for Thomas Biggs who built the first mill there. Gannett, p. 46.

Binghampton

Town in Lee County, named for the city in New York, which was named for William Bingham of Philadelphia, a benefactor. Gannett, p. 47.

Bishop Hill

Village in Henry County, so named by early settlers from their native town in Sweden. Bigelow, "The Bishop Hill Colony," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, VII, p. 103.

Blackstone

Village in Livingston County, named for Timothy B. Blackstone, a prominent railroad official. Gannett, p. 48.

Blandinsville

Town in McDonough County, named for Joseph L. Blandin, the first settler, and owner of the original site. Gannett, p. 49.

Bloomington

City in McLean County, named from Blooming Grove, so called from the profusion of wild flowers there. Gannett, p. 49.

Blue Island

City in Cook County, formerly called Portland. It was given the present name "because when viewed from a distance by the early settlers it appeared like an island covered with blue flowers." Gannett, p. 50.

Blue Mound

Township in Macon County, so called from its proximity to a hill covered with blue flowers. Gannett, p. 50.

Bluffs

Town in Scott County, so called from its location on the side of the high bluffs. Gannett, p. 50.

Bond

County, named for Shadrach Bond, Governor of Illinois, 1818-1822. Gannett, p. 51.

Bonfield

Village in Kankakee County, named for Thomas Bonfield, a prominent railroad official. Gannett, p. 51.

Bonpas

Creek and township in Richland County, named "from the prairie which is now called Pompare, but which was named by the early French, *Bon Pas*, meaning "good walk." Gannett, p. 51.

Boone

County, named for Daniel Boone, the great Kentucky pioneer. Gannett, p. 52.

Bourbonnais

Village in Kankakee County, named for Francis Bourbonnais, Sr., one of the early settlers. Campbell, "Bourbonnais; or the early French settlements in Kankakee County, Ill.," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, XI, p. 66.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Bosky Dell

Village in Jackson County, named by Samuel Cleeland, the founder, at the suggestion of Rev. J. L. Hawkins of Carbondale, who had taken a fancy to the words. Ackerman, pp. 135-136.

Bowdre

Township in Douglas County, named for Benjamin Bowdre, an early settler. Warner and Beers, p. 190.

Bowen

Village in Hancock County, named for its founder, Peter C. Bowen. Gregg, p. 530.

Braceville

Township and village in Grundy County, first named Braysville, for an early settler. Gannett, p. 54.

Bradford

Township in Lee County, so called from the fact that most of the settlers came from Bradford County, Pennsylvania. Stevens, II, pp. 299-300.

Bradford

Town in Stark County, named for Bradford S. Foster, one of its founders. Gannett, p. 54.

Bradley

Town in Kankakee County, named for the Bradley Manufacturing Company whose plant is located there. Gannett, p. 54. The place was formerly called Bradley City and North Kankakee. *Barge MS.*

Braidwood

Town in Will County, named for James Braidwood, who developed coal mines in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 55.

Breese

Town in Clinton County, named for Hon. Sidney Breese, for many years a justice of the State Supreme Court, and author of *The Early History of Illinois*. Gannett, p. 56.

Bridgeport

Township and town in Lawrence County, first called The Bridge, from a bridge spanning a stream at that point. Gannett, p. 56.

Broadlands

Village in Champaign County, named from a farm of that name containing a thousand acres. Gannett, p. 57.

Broadmoor

Village in Marshall County, named from the appearance of the country. Stennett, p. 47. It was first called Bradford from the town in Pennsylvania. *Barge MS.*

Brocton

Village in Edgar County, named from Brockton, Massachusetts, which was so called from an old resident family. Gannett, p. 57.

Brookfield

City in Cook County, named from the suggestion of prairie land bordering on a stream. Cutshall, p. 9.

Brooklyn

Township in Schuyler County, named from the city in New York. The word is corrupted from the Dutch *breucklin*, meaning "broken up" or "marshy land." Gannett, p. 58.

Brouillett

Creek and township in Edgar County, named for Pierre Brouillette, a French trader who established a trading post on this stream and traded there as early as 1801. Esarey, *History of Indiana*, I, p. 29; Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 495.

Brown

County, named for Major General Jacob Brown, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army, 1821-1828. Gannett, p. 58.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Browns

Village in Edwards County, named for L. J. Brown, the principal landowner. Gannett, p. 58.

Buckley

Village in Iroquois County, named by Ira A. Manley, first station agent of the Illinois Central Railroad there, for one of his relatives of that name. Ackerman, p. 125.

Buda

Town in Bureau County, named for Buda in Austria. Gannett, p. 60,

Buena Vista

Village in Stephenson County, named from the Spanish expression for "beautiful view." *Barge MS.* The name was probably suggested by the battle at Buena Vista, Mexico, during the Mexican War.

Buffalo Grove

Grove in Ogle County, now partly within the village of Polo, so called because of the presence of large numbers of buffalo bones there in early days. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 299.

Bunker Hill

Town in Macoupin County, named from the famous battle of the American Revolution. Gannett, p. 60.

Bureau

County, village, and river. The county and village take their names from the river, which was named for Pierre de Beuro, a French trader who established a trading post upon a creek in that vicinity. Gannett, p. 60.

Bushnell

City in McDonough County, named for Nehemiah Bushnell, President of the Northern Cross Railroad Company. This company built the first railroad there; it is now a part of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. Gannett, p. 61.

Butler

Village in Montgomery County, named for Butler Seward, an early settler. Gannett, p. 62. Another authority states that it was so called because several of the first settlers came from Butler County, Ohio. Perrin, *History of Bond and Montgomery Counties*, pp. 332-335.

Byron

Town in Ogle County, originally called Bloomingville. The name was changed to the present form at the instance of the Post Office Department because of a similarity of names. Leonard Andrus of Grand Detour, an early settler, chose the present name. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 299.

Cache

River, forming the boundary line between Alexander and Pulaski Counties. The word is French for "hiding place," and the stream was probably named by the Sieur Juchereau de St. Denis, a French nobleman who established a leather tannery in that vicinity about 1702. Lansden, *History of the City of Cairo*, p. 21.

Cache

Village in Alexander County, named from the river of the name.

Cairo

City in Alexander County, named from the city in Egypt. Gannett, p. 63.

Calhoun

County, named for John C. Calhoun, Vice-President of the United States, 1825-1832. Gannett, p. 64.

Cambridge

Town and township in Henry County, named from the city in Massachusetts, the former home of several of the founders. Gannett, p. 65.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Camp Grove

Village in Marshall County, named from its location on a favorite camping ground of emigrants on their journeys westward. Gannett, p. 66.

Camp Logan

Village in Lake County, named for Gen. John A. Logan, noted Illinois soldier in the Civil War. Stennett, p. 51.

Camp Point

Township and town in Adams County, so named from its location on an old Indian camping ground. Gannett, p. 66.

Canton

City in Fulton County, named from the city in China. Gannett, p. 68.

Cantrall

Village in Sangamon County, named for its founder. Gannett, p. 68.

Capron

Town in Boone County, named for Capt. John Capron, an early settler. Stennett, p. 51.

Carbon Cliff

Village in Rock Island County, named from its location on a hillside and its proximity to coal mines. Gannett, p. 69.

Carbondale

City in Jackson County. At the suggestion of D. H. Brush, one of the founders, the place, being in the coal region, was named Carbondale. Ackerman, p. 135.

Carlinville

City in Macoupin County, named for Thomas Carlin, Governor of Illinois, 1838-1842. Gannett, p. 69.

Carlton

Village in DeKalb County, named for the town in New York. It was first called Newton, this from the fact that it was a new town in the vicinity. Stennett, p. 51.

Carlyle

Town in Clinton County, named for Thomas Carlyle, the celebrated English essayist. Gannett, p. 69.

Carmi

City in White County, named by the settlers for the fourth son of Reuben who was the first born of Jacob and Leah. (See Genesis, XLVI:8-9.) Gannett, p. 69.

Carpentersville

Town in Kane County, named by and for D. G. Carpenter, an early settler. Stennett, p. 52.

Carroll

County, named for Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Maryland, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Gannett, p. 70.

Carterville

City in Williamson County, named for Laban Carter, the discoverer of coal in the vicinity, and the first settler.

Cary

Village in McHenry County, named for W. D. Cary, owner of the site. Stennett, p. 52.

Caseyville

Village in St. Clair County, named for Zadoc Casey, Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, 1830-1833. Gannett, p. 71.

Cass

County, named for General Lewis Cass, Governor of Michigan in 1820. Gannett, p. 71.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Castleton

Village in Stark County, named for Dr. Alfred Castle, who was instrumental in introducing a railroad into the settlement. Gannett, p. 72.

Catlin

Town in Vermilion County, named for J. M. Catlin, a railroad official. Gannett, p. 72.

Cave in Rock

Village in Hardin County, named from a cave in a rocky bluff on the Ohio River. Gannett, p. 73.

Cayuga

Village in Livingston County. The name is of Indian origin, but its derivation is in dispute. In general the accepted meaning is that of "long lake," from the lake in New York and the Iroquois tribe of that name. Gannett, p. 73.

Cazenovia

Village in Woodford County, named from the town in New York. Gannett, p. 73.

Cedar Point

Village in La Salle County, named from a high hill at the point of Cedar Creek. Foster, *A Brief Survey of La Salle Co.*, p. 11 (cited hereafter as "Foster").

Central City

Town in Marion County, so called from its proximity to Centralia. Ackerman, p. 132.

Centralia

City in Marion County, so named from its location at the junction of the main line and the Chicago branch of the Illinois Central Railroad. Gannett, p. 74.

Cerro Gordo

Town in Piatt County, named from the battlefield in Mexico. The word means "large (around) hill." Gannett, p. 74.

Chadwick

Village in Carroll County, named for an engineer who was connected with the building of the first railroad through that section. Gannett, p. 74.

Chambersburg

Township in Pike County, named for a family of first settlers. Gannett, p. 74.

Champaign

County and city, named from the county in Ohio. The word is French for "level fields." Gannett, p. 75.

Chana

Village in Ogle County, named for its founder, Phineas Chaney, whose name was originally spelled Chana. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 600.

Chandlerville

Village in Cass County, named for its founder, Dr. Charles Chandler. Gannett, p. 75.

Channahon

Village in Will County. The word is of Indian origin, meaning "the meeting of the waters." Le Baron and Co., *History of Will County*, p. 591.

Chapin

Village in Morgan County, named for its founders, Charles and Horace Chapin. Gannett, p. 75.

Charleston

City in Coles County, named for Charles Morton, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 76.

Chatsworth

Town in Livingston County, named from the country home of the Duke of Devonshire in England. Gannett, p. 77.

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Chebanse

Village in Iroquois County, named for a Potawatomi chief, the word meaning "little duck." Gannett, p. 77; Haines, p. 717.

Chemung

Village in McHenry County, named by A. M. Seward for the town in New York. The name is Indian, meaning "big horn," or "big horn in the water," and arose from the Indians having discovered the skeleton of a prehistoric monster at that place. Stennett, p. 55.

Chenoa

Town and township in McLean County. The word is said to have been derived from the Indian *chenowa*, meaning "white dove." Gannett, p. 78.

Cherokee

Town in Randolph County, named from the Cherokee tribe. The name is probably derived from the Choctaw *chiluk-ki*, meaning "cave people" in allusion to the numerous caves in the Cherokee country. Hodge, I, pp. 245-246.

Cherry Valley

Village in Winnebago County, named by Edward Fletcher, owner of the site, for the town in New York. The place was formerly called Grabtown, Graball, and Butler. Stennett, p. 55.

Chester

City in Randolph County, named for the city in England. Gannett, p. 79. The name was chosen by Mrs. Jane Smith. McDonough and Co., *History of Randolph, Monroe, and Perry Counties, Illinois*, p. 284.

Chicago

City in Cook County, also a river of the same name. The word is formed from the Ojibway dialect word *she-kag-ong*, which signifies "wild onion place," and

which is derived from a root form signifying a "bad smell." Gannett, p. 79. *See also* Milo M. Quaife, *Checagou*, pp. 17-19.

Chicago Heights

City in Cook County, named from Chicago by a real estate company. It is located upon higher ground than Chicago. Goodspeed and Healy, p. 344.

Chillicothe

Town in Peoria County, named from a Shawnee sub-tribe. Gannett, p. 80. The meaning of the word itself is lost. Hodge, I, p. 267.

China

Township in Lee County. First called Fremont, the name was changed to the present form at the instance of Russell Linn, an early settler, who came from China Township in Maine. Bateman and Selby, *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Lee County*, p. 643. (Cited hereafter as "Bateman and Selby, *History of Lee County*").

Chrisman

Town in Edgar County, named for its founder, Mathias Chrisman. Gannett, p. 81.

Christian

County, named for a county of the same name in Kentucky. The Kentucky county was named for Col. William Christian, an officer in the Revolutionary War. Gannett, p. 81.

Christopher

City in Franklin County, named for Christopher Harrison, one of the first settlers. Cutshall, p. 10.

Cicero

City in Cook County, named for the celebrated Roman writer and orator. Gannett, p. 81.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Cisco

Village in Piatt County. The word is of Indian origin, probably from an Algonquian dialect, and was applied particularly to the lake herring. Gannett, p. 82; Hodge, I, p. 300.

Cissna Park

Village in Iroquois County, named for William Cissna, one of its founders. Gannett, p. 82.

Clark

County, named for Gen. George Rogers Clark, who captured the Northwest from the British during the Revolutionary War. Gannett, p. 82.

Clarke City

Village in Kankakee County, named for the man who opened the first coal mine in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 83.

Clay

County, named for Henry Clay, the great Kentucky statesman. Gannett, p. 83.

Clay City

Village in Clay County, named for Henry Clay. Gannett, p. 84.

Clayton

Town in Adams County, named for Henry Clay. Gannett, p. 84.

Clifton

Village in Iroquois County, named by William A. Veach, former owner, for the Clifton House, a Chicago hotel. Ackerman, p. 124.

Clinton

County, named for Dewitt Clinton, Governor of New York, and projector of the Erie Canal. Gannett, p. 85.

Clinton

City in Dewitt County, named for Dewitt Clinton. Gannett, p. 85.

Coal City

Town in Grundy County, so named from the existence of coal mines in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 85.

Coal Valley

Village in Rock Island County, so called from the existence of coal mines in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 85.

Coatsburg

Village in Adams County, named for Robert Coats, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 85.

Cobden

Town in Union County. First called South Pass, it was given the present name in honor of Richard Cobden, leader of the English Free Trade Movement. Cobden, a shareholder in the Illinois Central Railroad, made a trip through Illinois in 1858. Ackerman, p. 136.

Coffeen

Town in Montgomery County, named for Gustavus Coffeen, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 86.

Colchester

Town in McDonough County. It was first called Chester, but the prefix was added to distinguish it from Chester in Randolph County. Gannett, p. 87.

Coles

County, named for Edward Coles, Governor of Illinois, 1822-1826. Gannett, p. 87.

Colfax

Town in McLean County, named for Schuyler Colfax, Vice President of the United States, 1869-1873. Gannett, p. 87.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

Collinsville

City in Madison County, named from the Collins brothers, founders of the town. Gannett, p. 88.

Como

Village in Whiteside County, named from the lake in Italy. Bent, *History of Whiteside County*, p. 250.

Compton

Village in Lee County, named for Joel Compton, the founder. Gannett, p. 89.

Concord

Village in Morgan County, named "to indicate the state of harmony between Presbyterians and Congregationalists." Kofoid, "Puritan influences in the Formative Years of Illinois History," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, X, p. 298.

Cook

County, named for Daniel Pope Cook, Congressman from Illinois, 1818-1826. Gannett, p. 90.

Cornell

Village in Livingston County, named for a family of first settlers. Gannett, p. 92.

Coulterville

Town in Randolph County, named for its founder, James B. Coulter. It was formerly called Grand Cote. Gannett, p. 93.

Council Hill

Village in Joe Daviess County, so named from the tradition that the Indians held conferences there. Ackerman, p. 139.

Crawford

County, named for William H. Crawford, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, 1815-1825. Gannett, p. 95.

Creal Springs

Town in Williamson County, named for the founder. Gannett, p. 95.

Crescent City

Village in Iroquois County, so called from the crescent-shaped forest along Spring Creek and the Iroquois River. Beckwith, *History of Iroquois County*, p. 404.

Creston

Village in Ogle County, so called from its location at the highest point between Chicago and the Mississippi River along the line of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad. This place was formerly called Dement. *Barge MS.*

Crossville

Village in White County, named for a family of the first settlers. Gannett, p. 96.

Cuba

City in Fulton County, named from the Island of Cuba. Gannett, p. 96.

Cullom

Village in Livingston County, named for Shelby M. Cullom, Governor of Illinois, 1877-1883. Gannett, p. 97.

Cumberland

County, named from the Cumberland Road, which was projected to pass through it. Gannett, p. 97.

Dakota

Township and village in Stephenson County, named for the largest division of the Siouan family of Indians. The word means "allies." Hodge, I, p. 376.

Dalzell

Town in Bureau County, named for S. M. Dalzell, a coal mine operator. Stennett, p. 62.

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Dana

Village in La Salle County, named for a railroad official. Gannett, p. 99.

Danvers

Village in McLean County, named from the town in Massachusetts. Gannett, p. 99.

Danville

City in Vermilion County, named for Dan Beckwith, who owned part of the town site. Gannett, p. 100.

Davis

Village in Stephenson County, named for S. J. Davis, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 101.

Dawson

Township in McLean County, named for John Wells Dawson, a pioneer. Gannett, p. 101.

Dawson

Village in Sangamon County, named for Bert Dawson, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 101.

Daysville

Town in Ogle County, named for Jehiel Day, one of the founders. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 299.

Dayton

Village in LaSalle County, named from Dayton, Ohio, the home of many of the early settlers. Interstate Publishing Co., *History of La Salle County, Illinois*, II, p. 84.

Decatur

City in Macon County, named for Commodore Stephen Decatur, distinguished naval officer in the war with the Barbary pirates. Gannett, p. 102.

Decorra

Village in Henderson County. One of the forms of the name of a line of famous Winnebago chiefs de-

scended from Sabrevoir de Carrie, a French officer, and Hopokaw, daughter of a Winnebago chief. Hodge, I, p. 384.

De Kalb

County, township and city. The township and city take their names from the county, which is named for the Baron De Kalb, who was killed at the Battle of Camden. Gannett, pp. 102-103.

Delavan

Town and township in Tazewell County, named for E. C. Delavan, a temperance advocate of Albany, New York. Gannett, p. 103.

De Pue

City and creek in Bureau County, named for an early French trader. Gannett, p. 104.

Derinda

Township in Jo Daviess County, named by David Barr, an early settler, for his wife. Kett and Co., *History of Jo Daviess County*, p. 597.

De Soto

Village in Jackson County, named for Hernando de Soto, discoverer of the Mississippi River. Gannett, p. 105.

Des Plaines

River and city in Cook County, so named from the presence of a species of maple called "plaine" by the French. Gannett, p. 105.

Detroit

Village in Pike County, named for the city in Michigan. The word is French for "strait" or "narrow passage," and was given to the river by early explorers. Gannett, p. 105.

ILLINOIS PLACE-NAMES

De Witt

County and village, named for De Witt Clinton, Governor of New York, and projector of the Erie Canal. Gannett, p. 105.

Diamond

Village in Grundy County, named from its location in the center of the "Black Diamond" coal district. Gannett, p. 106.

Dimmick

Township and village in La Salle County, named for an early settler. Gannett, p. 106.

Dixon

City in Lee County, named by the founder, John Dixon, after himself. *Barge MS.*

Dolton

Town in Cook County, named for its founder, Andrew H. Dolton. Andreas, *History of Cook County*, p. 864. (Cited hereafter as "Andreas").

Dongola

Village in Union County, named by a Mr. Leavenworth after the city in Africa. Ackerman, p. 137.

Douglas

County, named for Stephen A. Douglas, United States Senator from Illinois, 1847-1861. Gannett, p. 108.

Downer's Grove

Township and city in Du Page County, named for Pierce Downer, who located there in 1830. Gannett, p. 108.

Dubois

Township and village in Washington County, named for Jesse K. Dubois, State Auditor of Public Accounts, 1856-1864. Gannett, p. 109.

Duncan

Village in Stark County, named for James Henry Duncan, United States Congressman from Massachusetts, 1849-1853. Gannett, p. 110.

Dundee

Township in Kane County, named from the village in New York. Gannett, p. 110.

Dunlap

Village in Peoria County, named for Alva Dunlap, prominent landowner. Gannett, p. 110.

Du Page

County, named from the river of that name. Gannett, p. 111.

Du Page

River, named for a French-Indian, Du Page or De Page, who was located on this stream before 1800. Gannett, p. 111.

Du Quoin

City in Perry County, said to have been named for a chief of the Kaskaskia tribe. Gannett, p. 111.

Durand

Village in Winnebago County, named for H. S. Durand, a prominent railroad official. Gannett p. 111.

Dwight

Township and town in Livingston County, named for Henry A. Dwight, Jr., a benefactor of the town. Gannett, p. 111.

Earlville

Town in La Salle County, named by C. H. Sutphen for the town in New York, which was named for Jonas Earl, a canal commissioner. Stennett, p. 66.

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East Dubuque

Town in Jo Daviess County, named from its location opposite Dubuque, Iowa, which was named for Julien Dubuque, early trader and lead miner. The town was first called Dunleith. *Barge MS.*

East Cape Girardeau

Village in Alexander County, opposite Cape Girardeau, Missouri, which was named for Sieur Girardot of Kaskaskia. Gannett, p. 68.

East Moline

City in Rock Island County, named from the nearby city to the west. Bateman and Selby, *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Rock Island County*, p. 686 (cited hereafter as "Bateman and Selby, *History of Rock Island County*").

East Peoria

Town in Tazewell County, formerly called Hilton. The present name is indicative of its location in reference to Peoria. Allensworth, *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Tazewell County*, II, p. 849.

Edelstein

Village in Peoria County, named for a railroad official. Gannett, p. 114.

Edgar

County, named for Gen. John Edgar, early settler, trader, miller, and militia general at Kaskaskia. Gannett, p. 114.

Edgewood

Town in Effingham County, named from its location at the edge of the forest. Gannett, p. 114.

Edison Park

Village in Cook County, named for Thomas A. Edison, the great inventor. Gannett, p. 114.

Edwards

County, named for Ninian Edwards, Governor of Illinois, 1826-1830. Gannett, p. 115.

Edwardsville

City in Madison County, named for Ninian Edwards. Gannett, p. 115.

Effingham

City and county, named for Gen. Edward Effingham, an Englishman by birth, who was the United States Surveyor who laid out the county. Ackerman, p. 129.

Ela

Township in Lake County, named for George Ela, an early settler. Warner and Beers, p. 196.

Elbridge

Village in Edgar County, named for Elbridge G. Howe, an early *colporteur*. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 406.

Eldena

Village in Lee County, named for Mrs. Eldena Van Epps, wife of a former owner of the land. Ackerman, p. 142.

Eldorado

City in Saline County. Originally the town was named for two settlers, Elder and Reed, but the spelling was afterwards changed to the present form. Gannett, p. 116.

Eleroy

Village in Stephenson County, named by Hiram Jones of Utica, New York, for his son, Leroy. Ackerman, p. 140.

Elgin

City in Kane County, named for the Earl of Elgin, or, as some have it, for the city in Scotland. Gannett, p.

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116. Another story is that it is named for the old church hymn of that name. Stennett, p. 68.

Elk Grove

Township in Cook County, named from a grove, so called by the Indians. Goodspeed and Healy, II, p. 273.

Elkville

Town in Jackson County, named from Elk Prairie, so called because it was frequented by elk in early days. Ackerman, p. 134.

Elliottstown

Village in Effingham County, named for Smith Elliott, the proprietor. Bateman and Selby, *Illinois Historical and Effingham County Biographical*, p. 630.

Ellisville

Village in Fulton County, named for Levi D. Ellis, its founder. Gannett, p. 117.

Elmhurst

City in Du Page County, named by Thomas H. Bryan, the words being composed of *elm*, referring to the species of tree, and *hoorst*, the German for "grove," the complete word meaning "a grove of elm trees." The place was first called Cottage Hill. Stennett, p. 68.

Elmira

Village in Stark County, named from the city in New York, which is said to have been named for the daughter of Nathan Teall, a tavern keeper. Gannett, p. 118.

Elmwood Park

Town in Cook County, named thus due to the species of trees growing in the neighborhood. Cutshall, p. 10.

El Paso

Town in Woodford County, so named because two railroads cross here. The words are Spanish for "the pass," or "the passage." Gannett, p. 118.

Elsah

Village in Jersey County, named by the founder, James Semple, for the place in which his forefathers had lived in Scotland. Cushman, "General James Semple," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, X, p. 72.

Elva

Village in De Kalb County, named for the daughter of Joseph F. Gliddin, the owner of the site. Stennett, p. 69.

Elwin

Village in Macon County, named from the names of two men—Elwood and Martin, founders of the town. It was formerly called Wheatland. Ackerman, p. 148.

Emery

Village in Macon County, named for Charles F. Emery, a neighboring land owner. Gannett, p. 119.

Erie

Town and township in Whiteside County, named from the county in New York. Gannett, p. 120.

Essex

Township in Stark County, named for Isaac B. Essex, the first white settler in the county. Gannett, p. 121.

Eureka

Town in Woodford County, named from the Greek expression, meaning "I have it," or "I have found it." Gannett, p. 122.

Evanston

City in Cook County, named for and by Dr. John Evans, one of the founders of Northwestern University. Stennett, pp. 69-70.

Exeter

Village in Scott County, named from the city in New Hampshire, the former home of the founders. Gannett, p. 122.

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Farina

Town in Fayette County. Farina was so called from its location in the wheat growing district. The word is derived from the Latin word for "flour." Gannett, p. 124.

Farmington

City in Fulton County, named from the city in Connecticut, which was named from a place in England. Gannett, p. 124.

Farmington

Village in Coles County, named by Mrs. John J. Adams, owner of the site, from the city in Tennessee. Le Baron and Co., *History of Coles County*, p. 429.

Fayette

County, named for the Marquis de la Fayette, French nobleman who served in the American Revolutionary Armies. Gannett, p. 124.

Felix

Township in Grundy County, named for Felix Grundy, United States Senator from Tennessee, 1829-1838, 1839-1840. Gannett, p. 125.

Fever

River in Jo Daviess County, named by the French *la rivière de fève*, which means "river of the bean," because of the prevalence of the wild bean upon the banks. This was later corrupted to *fièvre*, meaning "fever," which gave rise to the belief that the place was unhealthy. Gannett, p. 125. George Davenport, an early trader, says the Indians called both the Galena River and Small Pox Creek *macaabee*, or "river that blisters," this because of a plague of small pox there at one time. Kett and Co., *History of Jo Daviess County*, pp. 227-228.

Fitch

Stream in Stark County, named for George Fitch, an early settler on its banks. Gannett, p. 126.

Fithian

Village in Vermilion County, named for Dr. William Fithian. Gannett, p. 126.

Flagg

Township and village in Ogle County, named for Richard P. Flagg, an early settler. Stennett, p. 71.

Flint

Creek in Lake County, named for Amos Flint, an early settler. Le Baron and Co., *The Past and Present of Lake County, Illinois*, p. 255.

Flora

City in Clay County, named for Flora Whittleby, daughter of the founder. Gannett, p. 127.

Fond du Lac

Town in Tazewell County, so called from its location at the "end of the lake." The words are French. Gannett, p. 128.

Ford

County, named for Thomas Ford, Governor of Illinois, 1842-1846. Gannett, p. 128.

Forest Park

City in Cook County, named for the numerous trees surrounding it. Cutshall, p. 11.

Forsyth

Village in Macon County, named for Robert Forsyth, former General Freight Agent for the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Ackerman, p. 147.

Fort Sheridan

Village in Lake County, named from the military post nearby, which was named for Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, hero of the Battle of Winchester. Gannett, p. 129.

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Fosterburg

Village in Madison County, named for Oliver Foster, who made the first land entry in that vicinity. Gannett, p. 130.

Frankfort

Town in Will County, named from the township, which was named for the city in Germany. Le Baron and Co., *The History of Will County, Illinois*, p. 514.

Franklin

County, named for Benjamin Franklin, the great statesman. Gannett, p. 131.

Franklin Grove

Village in Lee County, named from a nearby grove of trees by James R. Franklin, an early settler. Stennett, p. 74. Another authority says that the grove and the stream running through it were named by one John Dixon for his son, Franklin. *Barge MS.*

Freemantown

Town in Effingham County, named for William and John Freeman, early settlers. Bateman and Selby, *Illinois Historical and Effingham County Biographical*, p. 627.

Freeport

City in Stephenson County. The name was first applied to the home of William Baker, an early settler, because of his hospitality. The same name clung to the settlement that grew into the city. Ackerman, pp. 140-141.

Fulton

County, named for Robert Fulton, inventor of the steamboat. Gannett, p. 133.

Fulton Junction

Village in Whiteside County, named from its relation to the nearby city of Fulton. Stennett, p. 74.

Gage Lake

Lake in Lake County, named for the Gage brothers, early settlers. Le Baron and Co., *The Past and Present of Lake County, Illinois*, p. 246.

Galatia

Village in Saline County, named for Albert Gallatin, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, 1801-1814. Gannett, p. 133.

Galena

City in Jo Daviess County, named from the lead ore in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 133. The name is said to have been suggested by Samuel C. Miner. Stennett, p. 74.

Galesburg

City in Knox County, named for Rev. George W. Gale, the founder. Gannett, p. 133.

Gallatin

County, named for Albert Gallatin. Gannett, p. 133.

Galt

Village in Whiteside County, named for John Galt, owner of the site. It was first called Como for the lake in Italy. Stennett, p. 75.

Galton

Village in Douglas County, named for a railroad stockholder. Gannett, p. 134.

Galva

City in Henry County, named from Gefle, the home of Olaf Johnson in Sweden. It has been anglicized to the present form. Gannett, p. 134.

Garden Prairie

Village in Boone County, so named because of the fertility of the soil. It was originally called Amesville, for an early settler. Stennett, p. 75.

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Gardner

Town in Grundy County, named for Henry A. Gardner, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 134.

Garfield

Village in La Salle County, named for James A. Garfield, President of the United States, 1881. Gannett, p. 134.

Garrett

Township in Douglas County, named for Isom Garrett, an early settler. Warner and Beers, p. 190.

Geneseo

City in Henry County, named from the Genesee, the river in Wyoming County, New York. Gannett, p. 136. The word in the Seneca dialect means "beautiful valley," or the form Geneseo may mean "trees burned." Morgan, I, p. 130.

Geness

Township in Whiteside County, named from the Genesee River. *Barge MS.*

Geneva

City in Kane County, named by James Herrington, owner of the site, from the town in New York. Stennett, p. 75.

Genoa

Township and town in De Kalb County, named from the town in New York. Gannett, p. 136.

Georgetown

City in Vermilion County, named for George Hawthorth, son of the founder. Gannett, p. 136.

Gibson City

Town in Ford County, named by the founder for his wife's family. Gannett, p. 137.

Gifford

Village in Champaign County, named for its founder, B. F. Gifford. Gannett, p. 137.

Gilberts

Village in Kane County, named for Amasa Gilbert, an early settler. Stennett, p. 77.

Gilead

Village in Calhoun County, formerly called Coles Grove. *Barge MS.* The name is from the mountain or district in Palestine, and means "strong" or "rocky." Gannett, p. 137.

Gillespie

City in Macoupin County, named for Joseph Gillespie, judge and state senator from Madison County. Gannett, p. 137.

Gilman

Town in Iroquois County, named for Samuel Gilman, a railroad promoter in that section. Ackerman, p. 125.

Girard

Town in Macoupin County, named for Stephen Girard, wealthy Philadelphia merchant and financier. Gannett, p. 138.

Gladstone

Village in Henderson County, named for William E. Gladstone, the English statesman. Gannett, p. 138.

Glasford

Village in Peoria County named for Thomas Glassford, its founder. Gannett, p. 138.

Glencoe

City in Cook County. The name was formed by W. S. Gurnee by prefixing *glen* to *Coe*, the maiden name of his wife. Stennett, p. 78.

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Glenellyn

City in Du Page County, named from reference to a nearby glen, the last syllable being added for euphony. Stennett, p. 78.

Godfrey

Village in Madison County, named for Capt. Benjamin Godfrey, founder of Monticello Seminary. Gannett, p. 139.

Golconda

Town in Pope County, named from the city in India. Gannett, p. 139. The place was formerly called Sarahsville. *Barge MS.*

Goshen

Township in Stark County, so named from Goshen, Ohio. Gannett, p. 140.

Grafton

Town in Jersey County, named from the town in Massachusetts, the native place of the first settler. Gannett, p. 140.

Grand Detour

Village and township in Ogle County, so named from the great bend in Rock River. *Barge MS.*

Grand Ridge

Village in La Salle County, so named in recognition of two adjacent townships, Grand Rapids and Farm Ridge. Foster, p. 11. Another authority says it was so named because it is on the highest point of land on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad between Streator and Aurora. Interstate Publishing Co., *History of La Salle County, Illinois*, II, p. 233.

Grand Tower

Town in Jackson County, named from a high, rocky island in the Mississippi River which resembles a tower. Gannett, p. 141.

Granite City

City in Madison County, so called because of the "granite ware" manufactories there. Cutshall, p. 11.

Granville

Town in Putnam County, named from the town in Massachusetts. Gannett, p. 142.

Grayland

Village in Cook County, now a part of Chicago, named for John Gray, a land owner. Stennett, p. 79; Goodspeed and Healy, p. 290.

Gray's Lake

Lake in Lake County, named for William Gray, an early settler in the vicinity. Le Baron and Co., *The Past and Present of Lake County, Illinois*, p. 246.

Grayville

Town in White County, named for James Gray, who laid out the town. Gannett, p. 142.

Greasy Run

Creek in Coles County, so called because in early days hog thieves, to prevent identification of the stolen property by ear marks, would cut off the heads of stolen hogs and throw them into this creek, the decomposition making the water greasy. Le Baron and Co., *History of Coles County*, pp. 227-228.

Greene

County, named for Gen. Nathaniel Greene, soldier in the American Revolution. Gannett, p. 143.

Greenfield

Township in Grundy County, named for Thomas L. Green, a speculator in lands. Bateman and Selby, *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Grundy County*, II, p. 709 (cited hereafter as "Bateman and Selby, *History of Grundy County*").

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Greenup

Town in Cumberland County, named for William C. Greenup, first clerk of the Territorial Legislature of Illinois. Gannett, p. 144.

Greenville

City in Bond County, named from the town in North Carolina, which was named for Gen. Nathaniel Greene, the Revolutionary soldier. Gannett, p. 144.

Gridley

Town in McLean County, named for Asahel Gridley, State Senator from that county, 1850-1854. Gannett, p. 145.

Griggsville

Township and town in Pike County, named for the founder, Richard Griggs. Gannett, p. 145 .

Grisham

Township in Montgomery County, named for Spartan Grisham, an early settler. Perrin, *History of Bond and Montgomery Counties*, p. 402.

Grossdale

Village in Cook County, named for E. A. Gross, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 145.

Gross Park

Town in Cook County, named for and by S. E. Gross, the original owner of the town site. Stennett, p. 80.

Grundy

County, named for Felix Grundy, United States Senator from Tennessee, 1829-1838; 1839-1840. Gannett, p. 145.

Hahnaman

Township and village in Whiteside County, named for an early settler, "and to honor the memory of Samuel Hahnemann, the great homeopathic physician." Stennett, p. 81.

Hainesville

Village in Lake County, named for the original proprietor, Elijah M. Haines. Bateman and Selby, *History of Lake County*, p. 677.

Haldane

Village in Ogle County, named for Alexander Haldane, the first railroad agent at the place. Ackerman, p. 141.

Hallock

Township in Peoria County, named for Lewis Hallock, an early trapper and trader. Moon, "The Story of Nom-a-que," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, V, July, 1912, p. 154.

Hamilton

County, named for Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, 1789-1795. Gannett, p. 147.

Hamilton

Town in Hancock County, named for Artois Hamilton, an early settler. Gannett, p. 148.

Hamletsburg

Village in Pope County, named for its founder, Hamlet Ferguson. *Barge MS.*

Hammond

Village in Piatt County, named for Charles Goodrich Hammond, a railroad manager. Gannett, p. 148.

Hancock

County, named for John Hancock, Revolutionary patriot and signer of the Declaration of Independence. Gannett, p. 148.

Hanna

Township in Henry County, named for Rev. Philip Hanna, a first settler. Gannett, p. 149.

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Hardin

County, named for Col. John J. Hardin, who was killed at the Battle of Buena Vista in the Mexican War. Gannett, p. 149.

Hardin

Village in Calhoun County, named for Col. John J. Hardin. Gannett, p. 149.

Harding

Town in La Salle County, named for the first pastor, Rev. Charles Harding. Foster, p. 11.

Harlem

Village in Winnebago County, named for the town in New York. Stennett, p. 81.

Harmon

Township and village in Lee County, named for Dr. Harmon Wasson, a prominent physician in a neighboring town. *Barge MS.*

Harrisburg

Township and city in Saline County, named for a family of first settlers. Gannett, p. 150.

Hartland

Village in McHenry County, formerly called *Kishwaukee*. The present name was adopted because it is more euphonious. Stennett, p. 82.

Harvard

City in McHenry County, named by Judge Ayer, an early settler, for the University. Stennett, p. 82.

Harvel

Village and township in Montgomery and Christian Counties, named for John Harvel, the founder. Perrin, *History of Bond and Montgomery Counties*, p. 386.

Harvey

City in Cook County, a suburb of Chicago. It was named for its founder, Turlington W. Harvey. *Barge MS.*

Havana

City and township in Mason County, named from the city in Cuba. Gannett, p. 152.

Hayes

Village in Douglas County, named for Samuel J. Hayes, a railroad official. Gannett, p. 153.

Hebron

Township and village in McHenry County. The town was named from the township which was named by H. W. Mead for the church hymn, "Hebron." Stennett, pp. 82-83.

Helvetia

Township in Madison County, named by the settlers for Switzerland, their native country. Helvetia is the Latin name for Switzerland. Newbauer, "The Swiss Settlements of Madison County, Illinois," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, XI, p. 233.

Henderson

County and river, named for Col. Richard Henderson, the Kentucky pioneer. Gannett, p. 154.

Hendrix

Village in McLean County, named for John Hendrix, the first settler of the county. Gannett, p. 154.

Hennepin

Village in Putnam County, named for Louis Hennepin, Franciscan missionary, explorer and author. Gannett, p. 155.

Henrietta

Village in De Kalb County, named for the wife of Washington Hesting of Chicago, "he having promised

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the citizens to give a bell for the town hall or for the first church when built." Stennett, p. 83.

Henry

County, named for Patrick Henry, the Virginia patriot. Gannett, p. 155.

Henry

Town and township in Marshall County, named for Gen. James D. Henry, a prominent leader in the Black Hawk War. Gannett, p. 155.

Herbert

Village in Boone County, named by Daniel D. Bathrick, an employee of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company, for his son, Herbert. Stennett, p. 83.

Herrin

City in Williamson County, named from Herrin's Prairie, which was named for Isaac Herrin, the first permanent settler of that vicinity. Goodspeed and Healy, *History of Gallatin, Saline, Hamilton, Franklin and Williamson Counties*, p. 438.

Heyworth

Village in McLean County, named for Lawrence Heyworth, a railroad stockholder. Gannett, p. 156.

Highland

City in Madison County, named for the Highlands of Scotland. Newbauer, "The Swiss Settlements of Madison County," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, XI, p. 233.

Highland Park

City in Lake County, so named from its high elevation above the lake, and because it was located on a natural park. Stennett, p. 83.

Hillsboro

City and township in Montgomery County, so named from its location on hills. Gannett, p. 157.

Hinsdale

City in Du Page County, named for W. H. Hinsdale, a prominent railroad man who formerly lived in Hinsdale, New York. Gannett, p. 157.

Holcomb

Village in Ogle County, named for William H. Holcomb, a railroad official. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, pp. 613-614.

Holgate

Stream in northern Illinois, named for James Holgate, the first judge of Stark County. Gannett, p. 158.

Homewood

Town in Cook County. The name was suggested by Mrs. J. C. Howe after a village near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The place was originally called Hartford. Ackerman, p. 119.

Hoopeston

City in Vermilion County, named for its founder, Thomas Hoopes. Gannett, p. 160.

Hopedale

Village in Tazewell County. The name is descriptive of the location and sentiment that inspired the founders. Gannett, p. 160.

Hudson

Village in McLean County, so named because many of the founders were from near Hudson, New York. Ackerman, p. 145.

Humbolt

Village in Coles County, named for Friederich Heinrich Alexander von Humboldt, eminent German traveller, naturalist, and writer. The place was first called Milton. Ackerman, p. 128.

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Hume

Village in Edgar County, named for E. W. S. Hume, who once shared the ownership of the site. Gannett, p. 163.

Huntley

Village in McHenry County, named for T. S. Huntley, an early settler, and owner of the site. Stennett, p. 85.

Hutsonville

Village in Crawford County, named for the first settler. Allen, "Palestine, its Early History," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, X, p. 124.

Hutton

Township in Coles County, named for Joseph Hutton, an early settler. Le Baron and Co., *History of Coles County*, p. 433.

Illio polis

Township and village in Sangamon County. The name is coined from the words *Illinois* and *polis*, meaning "city." Gannett, p. 165.

Indian

Creek in Morgan County, formerly called *La Belle-ause*, but given the present name after an Indian massacre in that vicinity in 1814. Richmond, "The Wood River Massacre," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, VI, p. 94.

Iroquois

County, named from the river which flows through it. Gannett, p. 166.

Iroquois

Village in Iroquois County, named from the river of that name. *Barge MS.*

Iroquois

River in Indiana and Illinois, so named from a battle fought on its banks between the Illinois and the Iro-

quois. Gannett, p. 166. This word, the name of the great confederacy, is probably the Algonquian for "real adders," with the French suffix, *ois*. Hodge, I, p. 617.

Irving Park

Village in Cook County, named for Washington Irving, the American humorist and essayist. Stennett, p. 87.

Irvington

Township and village in Washington County, named for Washington Irving. Gannett, p. 166.

Itasca

Village in Du Page County, named for the lake in Minnesota. The word itself was coined by Mr. Schoolcraft from the Ojibway *totosh*, meaning "a woman's breast." Gannett, p. 167.

Ivanhoe

Village in Lake County, named from Scott's novel of that name. Gannett, p. 167.

Jackson

County, named for Andrew Jackson, President of the United States, 1829-1837. Gannett, p. 167.

Jacksonville

City in Morgan County, named for Rev. A. W. Jackson, a prominent negro preacher. Gannett, p. 167. Another story has it that it was named for President Jackson. Eames, p. 42.

Jamaica

Village in Vermilion County, named from the Indian word for "a country abounding in springs," or "land of wood and water." Haines, p. 734.

Jasper

County, named for Sergt. William Jasper of Fort Moultrie fame, who was killed at the siege of Savannah during the Revolutionary War. Gannett, p. 168.

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Jefferson

County, named for Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, 1801-1809. Gannett, p. 168.

Jefferson Park

Village in Cook County, formerly called Plank Road. The name was changed to encourage real estate development. Stennett, p. 88.

Jersey

County, named for the State of New Jersey. Gannett, p. 169.

Jerseyville

City in Jersey County, named for the State of New Jersey. Gannett, p. 169.

Jo Daviess

County, named for Col. Joseph Hamilton Daviess of Kentucky, who was slain at the Battle of Tippecanoe. Gannett, p. 169.

Johnson

County, named for Richard M. Johnson, Vice President of the United States, 1837-1841. Gannett, p. 170.

Johnston City

City in Williamson County, named for a Mr. Johnston, who held the contract for building the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad through this part of the state. Cutshall, p. 11.

Joliet

City in Will County. This place was first named Juliet, for Juliet Campbell, daughter of the founder. By an act of the State Legislature the name was changed in honor of Louis Jolliet, the French explorer. Gannett, p. 170.

Jonesboro

Town in Union County, named for a Dr. Jones, a prominent settler. Gannett, p. 170.

Joppa

Village in Massac County, named for Joppa, the seaport of Jerusalem. The word in Hebrew means "beauty." Gannett, p. 171.

Jordan

Township in Whiteside County, named from the river in Palestine. The word in Hebrew means "descender." Gannett, p. 171.

Kane

County, named for Elias Kent Kane, United States Senator from Illinois, 1824-1835. Gannett, p. 172.

Kaneville

Village in Kane County, named for Gen. Thomas L. Kane of Philadelphia. Gannett, p. 172.

Kangley

Village in La Salle County, named in honor of the owner of the first coal mine there. Foster, p. 11.

Kankakee

City, county, and river. The city and county take their names from the river. The word is evidently a French corruption of the Iroquois *kantake*, meaning "among the meadows," or *kankakee* in the Algonquian, meaning "raven." Haines, p. 735.

Kansas

Town in Edgar County, named for the state of that name. The name was applied to the Indians and the river, meaning "smoky," or "smoky river." Other authorities say it signifies "good potato." Haines, p. 735.

Kappa

Village in Woodford County, named for an Indian tribe reported to have been in the Illinois in 1697.

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Kearsarge

Village in Warren County, named from the Indian word for "peaked mountain," or, as some say, meaning "proud," or "selfish." Gannett, p. 172.

Keithsburg

Town and township in Mercer County, named for an early settler. Gannett, p. 173.

Kendall

County, named for Amos Kendall, Postmaster General of the United States, 1835-1840. Gannett, p. 173.

Kenney

Village in De Witt County, named for Moses Kenney, its founder. Gannett, p. 173.

Kensington

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago, so called at the request of James H. Bowen, owner of the adjoining lands. Ackerman, p. 119.

Kenwood

Station on the Illinois Central Railroad in Chicago, so named by Dr. J. A. Kennicott from his family home in Scotland. Ackerman, p. 114.

Kewanee

City in Henry County. The name is from the Indian *kewaunee*, meaning "returning track." Gannett, p. 174.

Kickapoo

Town and creek in Peoria County, named from the Indian tribe of that name. Gannett, p. 174. The word is from the Algonquian *kiwigapawa*, meaning "he stands about," or "he moves about, standing now here, now there." Hodge, I, p. 684.

Kinderhook

Village in Pike County, the anglicized form of the Dutch *kinder hoeck*, meaning "children's point." This

name was given by Henry Hudson to a bend in the Hudson River, upon his seeing many Indian children there. Gannett, p. 175.

Kings

Village in Ogle County, named for one of the founders, William H. King. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 613.

Kinmundy

Town in Marion County, named after the birthplace of William Ferguson in Scotland. Ferguson was once the London agent of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Ackerman, pp. 130-131.

Kishwaukee

Town in Winnebago County, and river in DeKalb, Boone and Winnebago Counties. This is an Indian word meaning "sycamore tree." Gannett, p. 176.

Knox

County, named for Gen. Henry Knox, founder of the Society of the Cincinnati, and Secretary of War, 1785-1794. Gannett, p. 177.

Knoxville

Town in Knox County, named for Gen. Henry Knox. Gannett, p. 177.

Laclede

Village in Fayette County, named for Pierre Liguette La Clede, one of the founders of St. Louis. The place was first called Dismal. Ackerman, p. 130.

Lacon

Township and town in Marshall County, named from Laconia in Greece. It was formerly called Columbia. Gannett, p. 178.

Ladd

Town in Bureau County, named for Amos Ladd, an early settler. Stennett, p. 91.

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La Grange

Town in Cook County, named by F. D. Cossitt for Lafayette's homestead of that name in France. Cutshall, p. 11.

La Harpe

Town and township in Hancock County, named for Bernard de la Harpe, who led an exploring party into the Southern Mississippi Valley in 1720. Gannett, p. 179.

Lake

County, so named from its location on Lake Michigan, "as well as from the great number of small lakes within its borders." Le Baron and Co., *The Past and Present of Lake County, Illinois*, p. 219.

Lake Forest

City in Lake County, named from its location. Gannett, p. 179.

Lamoille

Township and village in Bureau County, named from La Moille Valley in Vermont, which is probably an erroneous rendition of La Monette, the name given the river by Charlevoix. Gannett, p. 180.

Lamott

Creek in Crawford County, named for an early French trader. Allen, "Palestine, its Early History," *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, X, p. 122.

Lanark

Town in Carroll County, named from the city in Scotland. Gannett, p. 180.

Langley

Town in Bureau County, named for the village in South Carolina, which was named from Langley Parish in England. Stennett, p. 92.

La Salle

County, and city in the same county, named for René Robert Cavelier, Sieur de la Salle, discoverer of the mouth of the Mississippi in 1682.

Lawrence

County, named for Captain James Lawrence, American naval hero, killed when the *Chesapeake* was taken by the *Shannon*, June 4, 1813. Gannett, p. 182.

Lawrence

Town in McHenry County, named for and by Lawrence Bigsby, owner of the land. Stennett, p. 93.

Lawrenceville

City in Lawrence County, named for Capt. James Lawrence of the *Chesapeake*. Gannett, p. 183.

Lebanon

Town in St. Clair County, named from the mountain in Palestine. The word is Semitic for "whitish." Gannett, p. 183.

Lee

County, named for Gen. Richard Henry Lee of Revolutionary War fame. *Barge MS.*

Lee Center

Township and village in Lee County, so called because located near the geographical center of the county. *Barge MS.*

Lehigh

Village in Kankakee County. The word *lechau* is from a Delaware dialect, signifying "fork of the river." Hodge, I, p. 763.

Leland

Village in La Salle County, named for Edwin S. Leland, for many years a circuit judge. Gannett, p. 184.

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Lemont

Township and town in Cook County, named from its elevated location. Gannett, p. 184.

Lena

Town in Stephenson County, named from the plain of Lena in the poem *Fingal* by Ossian. Gannett, p. 184.

Levan

Township in Jackson County, named for Samuel Levan, an early settler. Brink-McDonough, *History of Jackson County*, p. 88.

Lewistown

City in Fulton County, named for Lewis Ross, first son of the founder. Warner and Beers, p. 191.

Lexington

Town in McLean County, named in commemoration of the battle in the Revolutionary War. Gannett, p. 186.

Limerick

Village in Bureau County, named for George Limerick, an early settler. Gannett, p. 186.

Lincoln

City in Logan County, named for Abraham Lincoln, a friend of the founders. Cutshall, p. 12.

Lisle

Township in Du Page County, named for S. Lisle Smith, noted Chicago lawyer and orator. Richmond, *History of Du Page County*, p. 171.

Litchfield

City in Montgomery County, named for E. B. Litchfield, one of its founders. Gannett, p. 187.

Livingston

County, named for Edward Livingston, Secretary of State of the United States, 1831-1833. Gannett, p. 188.

Lockport

City in Will County, named from its location at the principal locks of the Illinois and Michigan Canal. Gannett, p. 189.

Loda

Township and village in Iroquois County, named from Ossian's poem, *Cath-loda*. Gannett, p. 189.

Logan

County, named in honor of Dr. John Logan, father of Gen. John A. Logan of Civil War fame. Stringer, *History of Logan County*, II, p. 149.

Lombard

Town in Du Page County, named for Josiah L. Lombard, who purchased extensive lands in this vicinity. The place was formerly called Babcock's Grove, for the original owner. Stennett, p. 96.

Lombardville

Village in Stark County, named for the Lombard family, founders of the village, and part owners of the site. Gannett, p. 189.

Lostant

Town in La Salle County, named for the Countess of Lostant, wife of the French minister to the United States, Baron Mercier, who visited Illinois in 1861. Ackerman, p. 144.

Louisville

Township and town in Clay County, named for a family of settlers named Lewis. The change in orthography has resulted from a mistake. Gannett, p. 191.

Lovington

Town in Moultrie County, named for Andrew Love, the first postmaster. Gannett, p. 191.

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Lowder

Village in Sangamon County, named for the founder, George W. Louder. *Barge MS.*

Lowell

Village in La Salle County, named from Lowell in Massachusetts. Foster, p. 12.

Ludlow

Village in Champaign County, named for Thomas W. Ludlow, one of the incorporators of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Ackerman, p. 125.

McDonough

County, named for Commodore Thomas McDonough, victorious commander in the naval engagement on Lake Champlain, September 11, 1814. Gannett, pp. 193-194.

McDowell

Village in Livingston County, named for its founder, Judge W. G. McDowell. Le Baron and Co., *History of Livingston County*, p. 385.

McHenry

County, named for Gen. William McHenry, a prominent officer in the Black Hawk War. Gannett, p. 194.

McHenry

Township and town in McHenry County, named from the county. Gannett, p. 194.

McLean

County, named for John McLean, United States Senator from Illinois, 1824-1825; 1829-1830. Gannett, p. 194.

McLean

Village in McLean County, named from the county. Gannett, p. 194.

McLeansboro

Town in Hamilton County, named for Dr. William McLean, the first settler. Gannett, p. 194.

Mackinaw

Town and river in Tazewell County, named from the island in Lake Michigan. The word is Algonquian for "turtle," in the Chippewa dialect. Hodge, I, p. 782; Gannett, p. 195.

Macomb

City in McDonough County, named for Gen. Alexander Macomb, Commander-in-chief of the United States Army, 1828-1841. Gannett, p. 195.

Macon

County, named for Nathaniel Macon, United States Senator from North Carolina, 1816-1826. Gannett, p. 195.

Macon

Town in Macon County, named from the county. Gannett, p. 195.

Macoupin

County and creek. The stream was "so named by Indians because the white potato, signified by the name, was found abundantly along the banks of the creek." Gannett, p. 195.

Madison

City and county, named for James Madison, President of the United States, 1809-1817. Gannett, p. 196.

Mahomet

Village in Champaign County, named for the founder of the Mohammedan religion. Gannett, p. 196.

Makanda

Village in Jackson County, named for "the chief of the last tribe of Indians who inhabited the section of country about here." Ackerman, p. 136.

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Manhattan

Village in Will County, probably named from the island in New York Harbor. The word means "island of hills." Hodge, I, p. 800.

Manito

Township and village in Mason County, named from the Algonquian word for "spirit." Gannett, p. 198.

Mansfield

Village in Piatt County, named for General John Mansfield, an officer in the Civil War. Gannett, p. 198.

Manteno

Town in Kankakee County. This is probably a corruption of *manitou* or *manito*, Algonquian for "spirit." One authority says it is Potawatomi for "soldier's village." Ackerman, p. 123.

Maple Park

Village in Kane County, named from a grove of maple trees. The place was formerly called Lodi, but this name was discarded because of its similarity to Loda in Iroquois County. Stennett, p. 98; *Barge MS.*

Maquon

Village in Knox County. The name is from the Indian word for "feather" or "quill." Gannett, p. 199.

Marengo

Town in McHenry County, named from the scene of the victory of Napoleon over the Austrians, June 14, 1800. Gannett, p. 199.

Marine

Village in Madison County, so named because it was settled by "several sea captains from the east." Gannett, p. 199.

Marion

City in Williamson County, named for Gen. Francis Marion, distinguished American leader of guerilla

warfare in the South during the Revolutionary War. Gannett, p. 200.

Marion

County, named for Gen. Francis Marion. Gannett, p. 200.

Marley

Village in Edgar County, named for W. D. Marley, former owner of the site. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 408.

Maroa

Town and township in Macon County, named from an Indian tribe. Gannett, p. 200. "Tamaroa" is said to be the proper form. *Barge MS.*

Marquette

Town in Bureau County, named for Father James Marquette, companion of Jolliet in the exploration of the Mississippi River in 1673. *Barge MS.*

Marseilles

City in La Salle County, named from the city in France. Gannett, p. 200.

Marshall

County, named for John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, 1801-1835. Gannett, p. 200.

Marshall

Town in Clark County, named for Chief Justice John Marshall. Gannett, p. 200.

Martinton

Township in Iroquois County, named for Peter Martin, an early settler. Beckwith, *History of Iroquois County*, p. 496.

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Maryland

Township in Iroquois County. "Its name came from the settlers of that vicinity, who hailed from Maryland." Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 614.

Mason

Village in Effingham County, named for Roswell B. Mason, first chief engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad. Ackerman, pp. 129-130.

Mason

County, named for the county in Kentucky, which was named for George Mason, an intimate friend of George Washington. Gannett, p. 201.

Mason

River, tributary to the Illinois, named for William Mason, an early settler. Gannett, p. 202.

Mason City

Town and township in Mason County, named from the county. Gannett, p. 202.

Massac

County, named for Massiac, French Minister of Marine during the French and Indian War. Gannett, p. 202.

Matteson

Village in Cook County, named for Joel A. Matteson, Governor of Illinois, 1853-1857. Gannett, p. 203.

Mattoon

City in Coles County, named for William Mattoon, a land owner. Gannett, p. 203.

Maud

Village in Wabash County, named for a daughter of Robert S. Bell. *Ill. State Hist. Lib. Pub.*, XIII, p. 322.

Mauvaise Terre

Creek in Scott and Morgan counties. The term is French for "bad land." Gannett, p. 203; *Barge MS.*

Maywood

City in Cook County, named by Col. W. T. Nichols, one of the owners of the site, for his daughter, May. The suffix was added due to the presence of woods nearby. Stennett, p. 100.

Mazon

River, village and township in Grundy County. The word is Indian, meaning "weed," referring to a species growing along the stream. Gannett, p. 204.

Melrose Park

City in Cook County, named from Melrose Abbey in Scotland. The word "Park" was supposedly added for euphony. Stennett, p. 101.

Menard

County, named for Pierre Menard, Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, 1818-1822. Gannett, p. 205.

Mendon

Village in Adams County, named from the town in Massachusetts, which was named from Mendham in England. Gannett, p. 205.

Mendota

Township and city in La Salle County, named from an Indian word meaning "the junction of two trails." It was so applied here because of the crossing of two railroads. Gannett, p. 205.

Menominee

Village and river in Jo Daviess County. The name was taken from the name of the Algonquian tribe, which in Chippewa dialect means "wild rice." Hodge, I, p. 842.

Mercer

County, named for Gen. Hugh Mercer, who distinguished himself in the surprise of the British at Trenton, Dec. 26, 1776. Gannett, p. 205.

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Meredosia

Town in Morgan County. The name is said to be a corruption of the French *marais d'osier*, meaning "willow marsh." Gannett, p. 206. Another authority has it that it was named for Antoine D'Osia, a French priest who formerly resided there. According to this, the word is composed of his surname prefixed by *mere*, meaning lake. Eames, p. 35.

Meriden

Village in La Salle County, named from the city in Connecticut. Foster, p. 12.

Merrimac

Village in Monroe County, probably named from the river in Massachusetts. The name means "sturgeon" or "swift water." Gannett, p. 206.

Metamora

Village in Woodford County, named for the Indian chief who was the hero of Edwin Forrest's play of that name. The place was formerly called Hanover. Gannett, p. 206.

Metcalf

Village in Edgar County, named for John A. Metcalf, owner of the site. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 524.

Metropolis

City in Massac County. The name is expressive of the hopes of the founders. Gannett, p. 206.

Milan

Town in Rock Island County, named from the city in Italy. Gannett, p. 208.

Milk's Grove

Township in Iroquois County, named for Lemuel Milk, an early settler. Beckwith, *History of Iroquois County*, p. 376.

Millington

Village in Kendall County, so named from the mill sites on the Fox River. Foster, p. 12.

Milo

Township in Bureau County, named from the town in New York, which was named from the island in the Grecian Archipelago. Gannett, p. 209.

Mineral

Township and village in Bureau County, named from their location in the coal producing region. Gannett, p. 209.

Minier

Village in Tazewell County, named for G. W. Minier, its founder. Gannett, p. 209.

Minonk

Town in Woodford County. This word probably comes from the Algonquian *minis*, meaning "an island," or from *minno*, meaning "good," and *onk*, a local ending meaning "place" or "locality." Others say it signifies a star. Haines, p. 753.

Minooka

Village in Grundy County. The word is probably derived from *manukeke*, an Indian word meaning "maple forest." It may also come from *minoake*, meaning "good earth." Haines, p. 753.

Mississippi

Township in Jersey County, named from its location on the river of that name. The word is from the Chipewewa dialect of the Algonquian, and is formed from the words *mitchi*, meaning "big" and *sene*, meaning "water." *Wis. Hist. Coll.*, XI, p. 14.

Missouri

Township in Brown County, named from the river of that name. The word in the Siouan language signifies "great muddy," referring to the river. Hodge, I, p. 911.

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Moccasin

Village in Effingham County, named from the Algonquian word for "shoe." Hodge, I, p. 916.

Modena

Village in Stark County, named from the city in Italy. Gannett, p. 211.

Modoc

Village in Randolph County, named from the Indian tribe of that name. The word *móatokni* in their language signifies "southerners." The tribe now lives in Oregon. Hodge, I, p. 918.

Mokena

Village in Will County. The word is Algonquian for "turtle." Haines, p. 754.

Moline

City in Rock Island County, named from the Spanish *molino*, meaning "mill." Gannett, p. 211.

Momence

Town in Kankakee County, named for a half-breed Potawatomi who formerly lived in that region. Beers, *Atlas of Kankakee County*, p. 125.

Monee

Village in Will County. This name is a corruption of Marie, the Christian name of the wife of Joseph Bailly, a French trader among the Potawatomi in the Calumet River country. The Indians, unable to pronounce the word in French, corrupted it to the present form. Ackerman, pp. 120-123.

Monica

Village in Peoria County. The word is supposedly a corruption of the Algonquian *monakee*, meaning "spirit land." Haines, p. 755.

Monmouth

City and township in Warren County, named from the Battle of Monmouth, fought on June 28, 1778. Gannett, p. 212.

Monroe

County, named for James Monroe, President of the United States, 1817-1825. Gannett, p. 212.

Montgomery

County, named for Gen. Richard Montgomery, who was killed in the assault against Quebec, Dec. 31, 1775. Gannett, p. 213.

Monticello

Town in Piatt County, named from the home of Thomas Jefferson in Albemarle County, Virginia. Gannett, p. 213.

Moreland

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago. The word was coined from an expression of H. H. Porter, one of the owners of the site. Referring to the fact that the site was often inundated, he is reputed to have said that "more land and less water is much needed here." The place was named from the first words of this statement. Stennett, p. 105.

Morgan

County, named for Gen. Daniel Morgan, who distinguished himself at the assault on Quebec and at the Battle of Saratoga during the Revolutionary War. Gannett, p. 214.

Morgan

Township in Coles County, named for David Morgan, an early settler. Le Baron and Co., *History of Coles County*, p. 458.

Morgan Park

Town, now a part of Chicago, named for William M. Morgan, the first settler. Gannett, p. 215.

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Morris

City in Grundy County, named for Isaac P. Morris, a canal commissioner. Gannett, p. 215.

Morrison

City in Whiteside County, named for Charles Morrison of New York City, by Lyman Johnson, the original owner of the site. Stennett, p. 104.

Morse

Town in Stark County, named for W. E. Morse, a railroad official. Stennett, p. 105.

Morton

Town in Tazewell County, named for Marcus Morton, Governor of Massachusetts, 1840-1843. Gannett, p. 216.

Moultrie

County, named for Gen. William Moultrie, Revolutionary War soldier, and Governor of South Carolina, 1785-1787. Gannett, p. 216.

Mound City

City in Pulaski County, named from the presence of Indian mounds in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 216.

Mount Carmel

City in Wabash County, named from the mountain in Palestine. Gannett, p. 216.

Mount Carroll

Town in Carroll County, named for Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Maryland, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Gannett, p. 216.

Mount Morris

Town in Ogle County, named for a Bishop Morris of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 296.

Mount Pulaski

Town in Logan County, named for Count Casimir Pulaski, distinguished Polish officer, slain at Savannah, Oct. 9, 1779, while serving in the American Revolutionary Army. Gannett, p. 217.

Mount Sterling

Town and township in Brown County, so named by early settlers because it was considered a valuable location for a town. Gannett, p. 217.

Mount Vernon

City in Jefferson County, named from the home of George Washington in Virginia. Gannett, p. 217.

Moweaqua

Town in Shelby County. The term occurs in both the Ojibway and Potawatomi dialects. In the former it means "weeping woman," while in the latter it means "wolf woman." The proper form of the word is *mowaequa*. Haines, p. 756.

Muncie

Village in Vermilion County. The name *munsee* is derived from a word meaning "at the place where stones are gathered together." One of the Delaware tribes bore this name. Hodge, I, p. 957.

Murphysboro

City in Jackson County, named for William C. Murphy, one of the commissioners appointed to relocate the county seat when it was removed from Brownsville in 1843. Brink-McDonough, *History of Jackson County*, p. 69.

Murrayville

Village in Morgan County, named for its founder, Samuel Murray. Gannett, p. 218.

Nachusa

Village in Lee County. The name is a corruption of the Winnebago word *na-ju*, meaning "hair," and *ska*,

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meaning "white." This name was applied by that tribe to John Dixon, an early settler, whose friends platted and named the town. *Barge MS.*

Na-au-Say

Township in Kendall County. This was the name of a Potawatomi chief, and it means "he is walking and praying." It may be derived, however, from the Ojibway word *nayaushe*, meaning "a point of land." Haines, p. 757.

Nameoki

Town in Madison County, named from the Algonquian word for "fishing place," or "place of fish." Haines, p. 757.

Naperville

Township and city in Du Page County, named for Joseph Naper, founder of the city. Gannett, p. 220.

Naples

Village in Scott County, named from the city in Italy. Gannett, p. 220.

Nashua

Township in Ogle County, named from the Massachusetts tribe of that name. The word means "the land between." Hodge, II, p. 33.

Nashville

Town and township in Washington County, named from the city in Tennessee, which was named for Abner Nash, Governor of North Carolina, 1780-1781. It may possibly have been named for Gen. Francis Nash, a brother of Abner Nash, who was mortally wounded at Germantown, Oct. 4, 1777. Gannett, p. 220.

Nauvoo

Town in Hancock County, laid out by Joseph and Hiram Smith and other Mormons. The word is supposedly Hebrew, meaning "The Beautiful City." Warner and Beers, p. 192.

Nebo

Village in Pike County, named from the mountain in Palestine. Gannett, p. 221. Another authority says the word may be derived from the Algonquian word for "dead." Haines, p. 758.

Nebraska

Township in Livingston County, named from the state of that name. The word in the Dakota language signifies "shallow water." Haines, p. 758.

Nekoma

Village in Henry County, probably a corruption of *nokomis*, meaning "grandmother." Haines, p. 759.

Nelson

Village in Lee County, named for Samuel Nelson, an early settler. Stennett, p. 106.

Neoga

Town in Cumberland County. The name is Iroquois for "place of the Deity," being a compound of *neo*, meaning "the Deity," and *oga*, meaning "place." Haines, p. 759.

Neponset

Village in Bureau County, named from the town in Massachusetts. The word in the Indian means "he walks in his sleep." Gannett, p. 221. Haines, p. 759.

Nevada

Township in Livingston County, named from the state of that name. The word is Spanish for "snow-clad," being originally applied to the snow-capped mountains. Gannett, p. 222.

New Lenox

Township in Will County, named by J. Van Dusen, the first supervisor, for the town in New York. Le Baron and Co., *History of Will County*, p. 503.

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New Boston

Township and town in Mercer County, named for the city in Massachusetts. Gannett, p. 223.

Newman

Township in Douglas County, named for B. Newman, an early settler. Warner and Beers, p. 190.

Newton

Town in Jasper County, named for Sergeant John Newton, a Revolutionary War veteran. Gannett, p. 224.

Niantic

Village in Macon County. This was the name of an Algonquian tribe formerly living in Connecticut. The word is a contraction of *naiantukq-ut*, meaning "at a point of land on a (tidal) river or estuary." Hodge, II, p. 68.

Niles Center

Town in Cook County, named for the township in which it is located. The township was named from a village in Cayuga County, New York. Stennett, p. 107.

Nippersink

Town in Lake County. The word is Algonquian for "small stream," or "little current water." Haines, p. 760.

Nokomis

City in Montgomery County, named for the character in Longfellow's poem, *Hiawatha*. The word in the Ojibway dialect means "grandmother." Haines, p. 761.

Nora

Village in Jo Daviess County, named by R. B. Mason, Chief Engineer of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. John M. Douglas, a landowner, is said to have suggested the name, saying that as it was a very small

place, a small name would be preferable. Ackerman, p. 140.

Normal

City in McLean County, so named because it is the seat of the first State Normal School. Gannett, p. 226.

Norman

Township in Grundy County, named for Thomas J. Norman, an early settler. Bateman and Selby, *History of Grundy County*, p. 742.

Normandy

Village in Bureau County, named for the Norman family, former owners of the site. Stennett, p. 108.

Northfield

Town in Cook County, named for the town in Massachusetts, which was named from its location in the County of Franklin. Stennett, p. 108.

Norway

Village in La Salle County, so named because it was settled by Norwegians. Foster, p. 12.

Norwood Park

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago. The name was taken from the title of Henry Ward Beecher's novel, *Norwood, or Village Life in New England*. The word "Park" was added to distinguish the place from another in Mercer County. Stennett, p. 108.

Nunda

Town in McHenry County. The word is an Iroquois derivative for "hilly." Morgan, p. 48.

Oak Park

Village in Cook County, so named from the many oak trees on the site. The place was successively called Kettlestring's Grove, Oak Ridge, Harlem, and Noyesville before receiving the present name. Stennett, p. 109.

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Oconee

Village in Shelby County. The word means "water-course" or "small river" according to some, and "bone" according to others. Haines, p. 762. The name was once borne by a small tribe of the Creek Confederacy which lived on the Oconee River in Georgia. Hodge, II, p. 105.

Odell

Town and township in Livingston County, named for W. C. Odell, a prominent land owner of the vicinity. Gannett, p. 229.

Odin

Town in Marion County, named for Odin, the chief deity of Scandinavian mythology. Gannett, p. 229.

O'Fallon

Town in St. Clair County, named for Col. John O'Fallon of St. Louis, soldier, merchant and philanthropist. Gannett, p. 229.

Ogden

Township and village in Champaign County, named for an influential resident family. Gannett, p. 229.

Ogle

County, named for Capt. Joseph Ogle, an Indian fighter of the Ohio Valley. Gannett, p. 229. Another authority states that it was named for Capt. David Ogle of southern Illinois. Boss, *Sketches of the History of Ogle County*, p. 55.

Oglesby

City in La Salle County, named for Richard J. Oglesby, Governor of Illinois, 1865-1869. Gannett, p. 229.

Ohio

Township and town in Bureau County, so named by early settlers who were natives of Ohio. In the Iro-

quois language, this word means "beautiful" or "beautiful river." Haines, p. 762.

Okaw

Village in Moultrie County. The word is an outgrowth of the French abbreviation *au Kas*, *Kas* being the abbreviation for Kaskaskia and *au* being the regular preposition, signifying place to which. Haines, p. 763.

Okawville

Town in Washington County, named from the Kaskaskia River. One authority states that the word comes from the Indian word *kang*, meaning "porcupine." Gannett, p. 130.

Oliver

Village in Edgar County, named for Oliver Davis, circuit judge, 1861-1866. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 471.

Olney

City in Richland County, named for Nathan Olney, a resident of Lawrenceville. Gannett, p. 231.

Omaha

Village in Gallatin County, named from the tribe of the Siouan family. The word means "up stream." Haines, p. 764. Another authority gives the meaning as "those going against the current." Hodge, II, p. 119.

Omega

Village in Marion County, so named from the last letter in the Greek alphabet. *Barge MS.*

Onarga

Town in Iroquois County. This word seems of doubtful origin. If an Indian word, it would be of the Iroquois language, meaning "a place of rocky hills." Haines, p. 764.

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Oneco

Village in Stephenson County, named from the town in Connecticut. Oneka was the son of Uncas, renowned Mohegan sachem. Hodge, II, p. 127.

Oneida

Village in Knox County, named for the Iroquois tribe of that name. The word is a compressed form of *tüoněñ'iote*, meaning "there it is-rock has-set-up (continuative)", i. e., a rock that something has set up and is still standing, referring to a large sienite boulder near the site of one of their ancient villages. Hodge, II, p. 123.

Ontario

Township in Knox County, named from the lake of that name. The word is of Iroquoian origin, signifying "the great lake." From the Huron *ontara* or the Iroquois *oniatara*, meaning "lake" and *io*, a suffix meaning "great," or later, "beautiful," we have "beautiful lake." Hodge, II, p. 135.

Oquawka

Town in Henderson County. The word is a corruption of *ozaukee*, meaning "yellow earth." This is indicative of the type of soil found there. Haines, p. 765.

Oregon

Town in Ogle County, named from the state of that name. The name is derived from the Spanish nickname for the Indians of the northwestern coast. They were called *Orejones*, meaning "big-eared people," probably because they wore lip, nose, and ear ornaments. Hodge, II, pp. 146-147.

Osage

Town in Franklin County. The word is a corruption of *wazhazhe*, meaning "their own name." This tribe was the most important southern tribe of the western Sioux. Hodge, II, p. 156.

Osceola

Village in Stark County, named for the noted Seminole chief of that name. The word *asi-yaholo* means "black drink halloer," referring to the long drawn-out cry of the attendant while each man is drinking. Hodge, II, p. 159.

Osko

Village in Henry County, probably taken from the Indian village of that name at Auburn, New York. The word in the Onondaga dialect means "floating bridge." Haines, p. 807.

Oskaloosa

Village in Clay County, named for the wife of the Indian chief, Mahaska. Gannett, p. 233.

Oswego

Town in Kendall County, named from the place in New York. The Iroquois word *ahwaga* means "where the valley widens." Haines, p. 766.

Ottawa

City in La Salle County, named from the Indian tribe of that name. The name comes from *ădawē*, meaning "to trade," "to buy," or "to sell." It was applied to these people because they were traders. Hodge, II, p. 167.

Otto

Township in Kankakee County, originally called Carthage. The present name was chosen at the suggestion of Luther Gubtail in reference to the plentitude of prairie flowers. The term is said to refer to the "essential oil" of flowers. Beers, *Atlas of Kankakee County*, p. 127.

Owaneco

Village in Christian County, probably named for the Mohegan chief of that name. It is the same as Oneco.

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Barge MS. Another authority says that it may be derived from *Owaynea*, meaning "God." Haines, p. 767.

Owego

Township in Livingston County. The name in the Iroquois means "swift river." Haines, p. 767.

Ozark

Village in Johnson County, named from the Ozark Mountains. The term was applied at one time to a band of Quapaw Indians, and is an English rendering of the French *aux Arcs*, meaning "among the Arkansas." Hodge, II, p. 180.

Palatine

Township and town in Cook County, named from the Rhenish Palatinate in Germany. Gannett, p. 236.

Palestine

Town in Crawford County, named from the country in Syria. Gannett, p. 236.

Palmyra

Township in Lee County, named at the suggestion of Frederick Coe, an early settler, for the town in New York, which was named from the city in Syria. Bateman and Selby, *History of Lee County*, pp. 686-687.

Paloma

Village in Adams County. The word is Spanish for "dove." Gannett, p. 237.

Pana

Township and city in Christian County. The word is said to be a corruption of the Algonquian *pena*, meaning "partridge." Haines, p. 768. Another authority gives it as a corruption of *Pani*, a word closely related to *Pawnee*. *Pani* usually designated a slave. Hodge, II, p. 199; Gannett, p. 237.

Panola

Village in Woodford County, named by J. B. Calhoun, an Illinois Central Railroad official. Ackerman, p. 144.

Papineau

Township and village in Iroquois County, named by the early settlers for Louis Papineau, the leader of the Canadian rebellion of 1837. Beckwith, *History of Iroquois County*, pp. 531-532.

Paris

City in Edgar County, named from the city in Kentucky. Gannett, p. 237.

Park Ridge

City in Cook County, so named because of its location on a ridge. The town was formerly called Brickton. Stennett, p. 112.

Partridge

Township in Woodford County, named for Black Partridge, a Potawatomi chief, whose village was within the limits of the township. Moore, p. 21.

Patoka

Village in Marion County, named for an Indian chief who lived nearby. Ackerman, p. 152.

Pawpaw

Village in Lee County, so named from the presence of pawpaw trees in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 240.

Pekin

City in Tazewell County. "In 1830 Mrs. Cromwell, wife of the mayor, christened the embryo city of the new Celestials, Pekin." Cutshall, p. 13.

Penn

Township in Stark County, named from Pennsylvania, the home of many of the early settlers. Gannett, p. 241.

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Peoria

City and county, named for the tribe of Indians, one of the chief members of the Illinois Confederacy. The word is derived from *piwarea*, meaning "he comes carrying a pack on his back." Hodge, II, p. 228.

Peotone

Town in Will County. The word in the Algonquian language means "bring," or "bring here." Haines, p. 771.

Pequot

Village in Grundy County, named from the Indian tribe in Connecticut. The word is a contraction of *paquatauog*, meaning "destroyers." Hodge, II, p. 229.

Perry

County, named for Commodore Oliver H. Perry, hero of the naval victory on Lake Erie, Sept. 10, 1813. Gannett, p. 242.

Peru

City and township in La Salle County, named from the town in New York which was named for the nation in South America. Gannett, p. 243.

Pesotum

Village in Champaign County, named for Pee-so-tum, the Indian who slew Capt. William Wells of Fort Wayne at the Chicago Massacre, Aug. 15, 1812. Ackerman, p. 127.

Petersburg

City in Menard County, named for Peter Lukins, one of its founders. Gannett, p. 243.

Philadelphia

Village in Cass County, named from the city in Pennsylvania. *Barge MS.*

Philo

Village in Champaign County, named for Philo Hale, who made the first land entry in the vicinity. Gannett, p. 244.

Piasa

Village in Macoupin County, named from the famous prehistoric pictograph on the Mississippi River bluff near Alton. The name is cognate with the Cree *piyesiw*, referring to an imaginary bird, and the Chipewewa *binessi*, meaning "a large bird." Hodge, II, p. 241.

Piatt

County, named for James A. Piatt, the first white settler in the county. Gannett, p. 245.

Pickaway

Township in Shelby County. This is one of the forms of *Piqua*, a contraction of *bi-co-we-tha*, referring to "ashes." One of the divisions of the Shawnee bore this name. Hodge, II, p. 260.

Pike

County, named for Gen. Zebulon M. Pike, soldier and explorer, noted for his explorations in the west and southwest in 1806. Gannett, p. 246.

Pinckneyville

City in Perry County, named for Charles C. Pinckney, soldier, statesman, and diplomat of X. Y. Z. Affair fame. Gannett, p. 246.

Pine

Creek in Ogle County, named from the natural grove of pine trees upon its banks. *Barge MS.*

Piper City

Town in Ford County, named for its founder, Dr. William Piper. Gannett, p. 246.

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Pittsfield

Town in Pike County, named for the city in Massachusetts, the former home of the early settlers. The Massachusetts town was named for William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. Gannett, p. 247.

Plano

Town in Kendall County. The word is Spanish for "plan" or "draft." Gannett, p. 247.

Pleasant Plains

Town in Sangamon County, the name being descriptive of the location. Gannett, p. 248.

Pocohontas

Town in Bond County, formerly called Amity. It was named for Pocahontas, heroine of Smith's famous narrative. The word is from *pokahantesu*, a verbal adjective, meaning "he (or she) is playful." Hodge, II, p. 269.

Polo

Town in Ogle County, named for Marco Polo, the famous mediaeval traveller. Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 556.

Pomona

Village in Jackson County, named for the Roman goddess of fruit. Gannett, p. 250.

Pontiac

City in Livingston County, named for the famous Ottawa chief, leader of the revolt against the British in 1763. Gannett, p. 250.

Pontoosuc

Village in Hancock County, named from the Algonquian *powntuasuck*, meaning "falls on the brook." Haines, p. 774.

Pope

County, named for Nathaniel Pope, Secretary of Illinois Territory, 1809-1816. Gannett, p. 250.

Poplar Grove

Village in Boone County, so named because the first building there was erected in a grove of poplar trees. Stennett, p. 114.

Potomac

Town in Vermilion County, named from the river in Maryland. The word *Pätóměk* is an Indian verbal noun, meaning "something brought." Hodge, II, p. 294.

Prairie City

Village in McDonough County, named from its location on the prairie. Gannett, p. 253.

Prairie Du Rocher

Village in Randolph County. The words are French for "rock meadow" or "meadow of the rock." Gannett, p. 253.

Princes

Village in Peoria County, named for Daniel Prince, one of the first settlers of that county. Gannett, p. 254.

Princeton

City in Bureau County, named from the city in New Jersey. Kett and Co., *The Tax Payers and Voters of Bureau County, Illinois*, p. 120.

Princeville

Town in Peoria County, named for Daniel Prince, one of the first settlers of the county. Gannett, p. 254.

Prophetstown

Town in Whiteside County, named for the "Shawnee Prophet," Tecumseh's brother. Gannett, p. 254. Another authority states that this was the home of *Wa-*

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kieshiek (The White or Light Cloud), a Winnebago medicine man who was one of Black Hawk's advisors, and that the town received its name from him. Bent, *History of Whiteside County*, pp. 363-364.

Providence

Village in Bureau County, named from the city in Rhode Island, which was so named by Roger Williams in recognition of God's help in his distress. Gannett, p. 254.

Proviso

Township in Cook County, named from the famous Wilmot Proviso of 1846. Goodspeed and Healy, p. 300.

Pulaski

County, named for Count Casimir Pulaski, Polish officer in the American Revolutionary Army, mortally wounded at the Siege of Savannah, Oct. 9, 1779. Gannett, p. 255.

Pullman

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago, named for the founder, George M. Pullman, who with Ben Field developed the famous "Pullman coach." *Barge MS.*

Putnam

County, named for Gen. Isaac Putnam, distinguished American soldier who was the hero of the Battle of Bunker Hill. Gannett, p. 255.

Quincy

City in Adams County, named for John Quincy Adams, President of the United States, 1825-1829. Gannett, p. 256.

Radford

Village in Christian County, named for George Radford, neighboring land owner. Ackerman, p. 148.

Radnor

Village and township in Peoria County, named from the town in Pennsylvania, which was named from the city in Wales. Stennett, p. 116.

Radom

Village in Washington County, named for an administrative district in Russian Poland. The promoter of the community, Gen. John B. Turchin, encouraged Russian Poles to settle there. Ackerman, p. 133.

Ramsey

Village in Fayette County, named for Alexander Ramsey, Governor of Minnesota, 1859-1863. Ackerman, pp. 149-150.

Randolph

County, named, according to most authorities, for Beverly Randolph, Governor of Virginia, 1788-1791. Gannett, p. 258.

Randolph

Township in McLean County, named for Gardner Randolph, an early settler. Gannett, p. 258.

Ransom

Village in La Salle County, named for Gen. Thomas E. G. Ransom, Illinois officer who saw distinguished service at Fort Donelson and Shiloh during the Civil War. Gannett, p. 258.

Rantoul

Town in Champaign County, named for Robert Rantoul, one of the incorporators of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Ackerman, pp. 125-126.

Raritan

Village in Henderson County, named from the Delaware Indians of that name in New Jersey. The word *Raritang* represents the participle *'rärüwítank*, meaning "the stream which overflows so." Hodge, II, p. 355.

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Ravenswood

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago. The word is formed by prefacing "Wood," the name of the owner of the site, with the word "Ravens," which was suggested by the plentitude of ravens there. Stennett, p. 116.

Redbud

Town in Randolph County, so named because of the presence of the redbud, a small ornamental tree. Gannett, p. 259.

Redmon

Village in Edgar County, named for Joseph Redmon, one of the owners of the site. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 508.

Reynolds

Township in Lee County, named for Sewell Reynolds, an early settler. Stevens, I, p. 446.

Rice

Township in Jo Daviess County, named for an early settler. Kett and Co., *History of Jo Daviess County*, p. 606.

Richland

County, named by early settlers for Richland County, Ohio. Gannett, p. 262.

Richmond

Village in McHenry County, named by C. G. Cotting for his native town in Vermont. Stennett, p. 118.

Richton

Village in Cook County, named by Joseph Batchelder, an early settler, for the town in Vermont. Ackerman, p. 120.

Richview

Village in Washington County, named from its commanding position over the nearby country. It was formerly called Richmond. Ackerman, pp. 132-133.

Ridgefield

Village in McHenry County, named by J. R. Mack, because of the presence of ridges nearby. Stennett, p. 118.

Ridgeland

Town in Cook County, named from the suggestion of one of the early proprietors that a ridge of land on which to place railroad buildings was needed more than anything else. The site of the town was then subject to inundation. Stennett, p. 118.

Ridgely

Village in Sangamon County, named for Charles Ridgely, one of its founders. Gannett, p. 263.

Ridott

Village and township in Stephenson County, named for an early settler. The town was first called Cochranville. Stennett, p. 118.

Ringwood

Village in McHenry County. Two theories as to the origin of this name are given—first, that it was named by Mrs. John E. Gray from the fact that the town was surrounded by a ring of woods, and, second, that it was named by the Misses Reynolds, daughters of the first settler, Judge Reynolds, from Ringwood Park in England. Stennett, p. 118.

River Forest

City in Cook County, so named because of its location in a forest alongside a river. Stennett, pp. 118-119.

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Riverside

City in Cook County, so named due to its location along the Calumet River. Gannett, p. 264.

Rivoli

Township in Mercer County, named from the town in Italy. Gannett, p. 264.

Roanoke

Town and township in Woodford County, named at the suggestion of John Gish, an early settler, from the city in Virginia. Moore, p. 50. The word *Roanok* means "northern people." Hodge, II, p. 392.

Robinson

Township and city in Crawford County, named for John M. Robinson, United States Senator from Illinois, 1830-1841. Gannett, p. 265.

Rochelle

City in Ogle County, named from the city in France. The place was formerly called Lane, for Dr. Robert P. Lane of Rockford, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 265; *Barge MS.*

Rock

River, named from the rocky structure of its bed. The Indians in their language gave the stream a like designation. *Barge MS.*

Rock Falls

City in Whiteside County, named from its location at the foot of the upper rapids of Rock River. Gannett, p. 265.

Rockford

City in Winnebago County, named from its location at a rocky ford over Rock River. *Barge MS.*

Rock Island

City and county, named from the island of that name in the Mississippi River. Gannett, p. 265. The city was first called Stephenson. *Barge MS.*

Rockton

Township and town in Winnebago County, named from the location on Rock River. Gannett, p. 265.

Rogers Park

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago, named for Philip Rogers, the original owner of the site. Stennett, p. 119.

Rollo

Village in De Kalb County, named from the "Rollo Books," a series of children's books once very popular. The word is a corruption of Raleigh, the name of the great Elizabethan courtier. Stennett, p. 119.

Roodhouse

City in Greene County, named for John Roodhouse, its founder. Gannett, p. 266.

Roscoe

Village in Winnebago County, named by Ralph Abell for William Roscoe, English historian and essayist, noted for his classic *Life of Lorenzo de Medici*. Stennett, p. 119.

Rose Hill

Town in Cook County, now a part of Chicago, so named because of the many wild roses growing on a nearby hill. Stennett, p. 119.

Ross

Township in Edgar County, named for the county in Ohio by James Gaines, an early settler. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 442.

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Rossville

Village in Vermilion County, named for its founder. Gannett, p. 267.

Round Grove

Village in Whiteside County, named from a nearby grove of trees. Stennett, p. 120.

Rountree

Township in Montgomery County, named for Judge Hiram Rountree, a prominent early settler. Perrin, *History of Bond and Montgomery Counties*, p. 391.

Rowe

Village in Livingston County, named for James Rowe, the proprietor. Le Baron and Co., *History of Livingston County*, p. 547.

Rushville

Town in Schuyler County, named for Dr. Richard Rush, candidate for the vice-presidency in 1828. Gannett, p. 268.

Rutland

Village in La Salle County. Formerly called New Rutland, it was named from the city in Vermont. Ackerman, p. 144.

Sacramento

Village in Kankakee County, named from the city in California, "whence a few of the settlers in this vicinity came." Ackerman, p. 124.

Sacramento

Village in White County. The name is Spanish for "sacrament." Some of the early settlers came here from the California city. Gannett, p. 269.

Sadorus

Township and village in Champaign County, named for Henry Sadorus, the first settler. Gannett, p. 269.

Sag

Town in Cook County, so named from its location near a swampy tract of land. *Barge MS.*

Saint Anne

Town in Kankakee County, named from St. Anne, Quebec, "the former home of nearly all the residents." Gannett, p. 269.

Saint Charles

City in Kane County. The place was first named Charleston by Ira Minard, an early settler, from the town of that name in New Hampshire. The name was changed to the present form to avoid confusion with Charleston in Coles County. Stennett, p. 121.

Saint Clair

County, named by and for Gen. Arthur St. Clair, Governor of the Northwest Territory, 1788-1800. Gannett, p. 270.

Saint Jacob

Village in Madison County, named for the first three settlers, Jacob Shultz, Jacob Schroth, and Jacob Willi. Gannett, p. 270.

Saint John

Village in Perry County, named from a celebration held by the Masonic Order on St. John's Day (June 24), 1856. Ackerman, p. 134.

Salem

City in Marion County, probably named from the city in Massachusetts. The word in Hebrew means "peace." Gannett, p. 272.

Saline

River and county, so called from the presence of salt springs or salt deposits in that region. Gannett, p. 272.

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Saluda

Town in Knox County. The name is evidently taken from the name of a small tribe of Indians formerly living on the river of that name in South Carolina. Hodge, II, p. 420. One authority gives the meaning of the word as "corn river." Gannett, p. 272.

Sandoval

Town in Marion County, named "after an old Mexican or Spanish chief." Ackerman, p. 152.

Sandusky

Village in Alexander County, probably named from the town in Ohio. The name is Huron for "cool water," appearing in that dialect as *Otsaandosti*. Hodge, II, p. 431.

Sandwich

City in De Kalb County, named from the Massachusetts town which was named from the town in England. Gannett, p. 273.

Sangamon

County and river. There is some doubt as to the origin of this name. One authority states that it is the general belief that it comes from *sagamo*, a word in the Delaware and Abenaki dialects meaning "a chief." In earlier writings this word appears as *sangamo*. Haines, p. 779. Another writer gives it as a corruption of a word meaning "good hunting ground." Gannett, p. 274.

San Jose

Village in Mason County, named from the city in California. San José is the patron saint of Mexico. Gannett, p. 274.

Santa Fe

Village in Alexander County, now called Fayville. The name is taken from Santa Fé, New Mexico, and means in Spanish "holy faith." Gannett, p. 275.

Saratoga

Township in Grundy County, named from the city in New York. The name means "the place where ashes or alkaline substances float," and was the name of a Mohawk band or village on the Hudson River. Hodge, II, p. 466.

Sargent

Township in Douglas County, named for Snowden Sargent, an early settler, Warner and Beers, p. 190.

Saunemin

Township in Livingston County, named for a former Kickapoo chief. Le Baron and Co., *History of Livingston County*, p. 397.

Savanna

City in Carroll County. This word comes from *shawŭn*, meaning "south." The Shawnee were sometimes called Savannas. Hodge, II, p. 530.

Savoy

Village in Champaign County, named for the Princess Clothilda of Savoy, who visited Illinois in 1861. Ackerman, pp. 126-127.

Saybrook

Village in McLean County, named from the Connecticut city of that name. The Connecticut city was named for Lords Saye and Sele and Brooke, members of the proprietorship of Connecticut. Gannett, p. 276.

Scales Mound

Township and village in Jo Daviess County, named for the mound in that vicinity, located on land formerly owned by Samuel Scales. Gannett, p. 276.

Schuyler

County, named for Maj. Gen. Philip Schuyler, American soldier, who organized the attack on Canada in 1775. Gannett, p. 277.

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Sciota

Village in McDonough County, named from the river in Ohio. The Indian word *seeyotah*, meaning "great legs," was applied to the (Scioto) river in Ohio because of its numerous and long branches. Gannett, p. 277. Dr. Thwaites says the word in the Huron dialect means "a deer." *Wis. Hist. Coll.*, XVIII, p. 20.

Scott

County, named from the county in Kentucky which was named for Gen. Charles Scott, Governor of Kentucky, 1808-1812. Gannett, p. 278.

Secor

Village in Woodford County, named for Charles Secor, a railroad contractor. Ackerman, p. 125; Gannett, p. 279.

Seminary

Township in Fayette County, so named because under a proposal submitted to the Constitutional Convention of 1818, certain extra townships were to be set aside "for the use of a seminary of learning." This township was so designated. Bateman and Selby, *Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois and History of Fayette County*, II, p. 659 (cited hereafter as "Bateman and Selby, *History of Fayette County*").

Senachwine

Lake in Putnam County; creek in Bureau, Peoria and Putnam counties. One authority says the name means "red cedar." Haines, p. 781. The name was borne by a Potawatomi chief. *Wis. Hist. Coll.*, XI, p. 336.

Seneca

Town in La Salle County, named from the tribe of that name, one of the members of the Iroquois Confederacy. The word is an anglicized word for a Dutch rendering of an Indian word for "place of stone." Hodge, II, p. 502.

Serena

Village in La Salle County, named for the township in which it is located. Foster, p. 12.

Shannon

Township and village in Carroll County, named for William Shannon, founder of the village. Gannett, p. 280.

Shawneetown

Town in Gallatin County, named for the Indian tribe of that name. The word *Shawnee* means "southerner." In 1745 the Shawnee migrated from the forks of the Ohio and settled for a time in this locality. Alvord, *The Illinois Country*, p. 187.

Sheffield

Town in Bureau County, named for Joseph Sheffield, one of its founders. Gannett, p. 281.

Shelby

County, named for the county in Kentucky which was named for Gen. Isaac Shelby, Governor of Kentucky, 1792-1796; 1812-1816. Gannett, p. 281.

Shelbyville

City in Shelby County, named for Governor Isaac Shelby. Gannett, p. 281.

Sheridan

Village in La Salle County, named for Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, noted cavalry officer in the Federal Army during the Civil War. Gannett, p. 282.

Shetlerville

Village in Hardin County, named for its founder, Joseph Shetler. Warner and Beers, p. 244.

Shobonier

Village in Fayette County, named for a chief whose Indian name has not been preserved. The word is a

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corruption of the French *chevalier*, which in the Ojibway and Potawatomi dialects would be rendered *Sho-bo-na*. Haines, p. 783.

Sidney

Township and village in Champaign County, named for Sidney Davis, a daughter of the founder. Gannett, p. 283.

Sigel

Village in Shelby County, named for Gen. Franz Sigel, German-American soldier and editor, who played an important part in keeping the State of Missouri from secession during the Civil War. Gannett, p. 283.

Sincarte

Town in Mason County. The name is a corruption of the French *chenal ecarte*, meaning "remote channel." Gannett, p. 283.

Somerset

Township in Jackson County, named by early settlers for the county in Pennsylvania. Brink-McDonough, *History of Jackson County*, p. 107.

Somonauk

Township and village in De Kalk County. The word is from the Indian *essemiauk*, meaning "paw-paw tree." A Potawatomi village of this name was once located on the Fox River. Haines, p. 785.

South Beloit

Town in Winnebago County, so named because it adjoins the city of Beloit in Wisconsin. According to one authority, the word was used by the French to mean "huckleberries." Baird, "Reminiscences of Life in Territorial Wisconsin," *Wis. Historical Coll.*, XV., p. 259.

Sparland

Village in Marshall County, named for John Sparr, owner of the site. Gannett, p. 287.

Sparta

City in Randolph County, named from the city in Greece. Gannett, p. 287.

Speer

Village in Stark County, named for E. K. and E. M. Speer, owners of the site. Stennett, p. 126.

Spoon

River, named by a Dr. Davidson because a bayou entering it near Waterford, Fulton County, resembled a spoon. Leeson, *History of Stark County*, p. 44.

Springfield

City in Sangamon County, so named from its location near Spring Creek. Eames, p. 39.

Spring Valley

City in Bureau County, named from a coal mine of that name, which was so called from the many springs in that region. Stennett, p. 126.

Stark

County, named for Gen. John Stark, famous New Hampshire soldier, who was largely instrumental in the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga in 1777. Gannett, p. 289.

Stavenger

Village in La Salle County, named from the noted seaport in Norway. Foster, p. 12.

Steeleville

Village in Randolph County, named for the man who built the first mill in the community. Gannett, p. 290.

Steger

Town in Will and Cook Counties, named for its founder. *Barge MS.*

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Stephenson

County, named for Col. Benjamin Stephenson, who served as Adjutant General of Illinois Territory, Delegate to Congress, and Member of the Constitutional Convention of 1818. Gannett, p. 290.

Sterling

City in Whiteside County, named for Col. Samuel Sterling of Pennsylvania. Stennett, p. 127. The town was formed by a consolidation of the towns of Harrisburg and Chatham. *Barge MS.*

Steward

Village in Lee County, named for the founder, Wesley Steward. Bateman and Shelby, *History of Lee County*, p. 632.

Stillman Valley

Village in Ogle County, named for Major Josiah Stillman, an Illinois officer in the Black Hawk War. Gannett, p. 291.

Stockton

Township in Jo Daviess County. The name was suggested by Alanson Parker, who desired that it be named after some town in the east, and also as suggestive of the future development of the region for the growing of live stock. Kett and Co., *History of Jo Daviess County*, p. 599.

Stonefort

Township in Saline County, so named from an old stone fort supposed to have been built for protection by the Indians. Gannett, p. 291.

Strawn

Village in Livingston County, named for Daniel Strawn, its founder. Le Baron and Co., *History of Livingston County*, pp. 568-569.

Streator

City in La Salle County, named for W. S. Streator of Cleveland, Ohio. Gannett, p. 292. The place was formerly called Hardscrabble. *Barge MS.*

Sublette

Township and village in Lee County. The origin of this word is obscure. The present form is a corruption of Soubllette, said to have been the name of a civil engineer engaged in railroad construction there. *Barge MS.* Another authority says the name originated from the many "sub-lettings" of contracts for the heavy grading on the railroad line nearby. Ackerman, p. 142.

Sullivan

City in Moultrie County, named by association with the name of the county, from Fort Moultrie on Sullivan's Island, Charleston Harbor, South Carolina. Gannett, p. 293.

Summerdale

Town in Cook County, named by Robert Greer, who was interested in a factory there, because of the pleasant suggestions about the place. Stennett, p. 128.

Summit

City in Cook County, named from its location on high land. Gannett, p. 293.

Sumner

Township in Kankakee County, named for Charles Sumner, United States Senator from Massachusetts, 1851-1874. Beers, *Atlas of Kankakee County*, p. 124.

Swango

Village in Edgar County, named for Jesse Swango. Le Baron and Co., *History of Edgar County*, p. 471.

Sycamore

City in De Kalb County. One authority says the Indian form of the word was *kishwaukee*, and it was ap-

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plied to the tree we know as the sycamore. Stennett, p. 129.

Tallula

Village in Menard County. This name was applied to two former Cherokee settlements in Georgia and North Carolina, and is of uncertain etymology. Hodge, II, p. 679. Another authority states that the word means "leaping waters." Haines, p. 786.

Tamaroa

Town in Perry County, named from one of the tribes of the Illinois Confederacy. The name in the Illinois dialect appears as *tāmaro'wa*, and means "cut tail" or "he has a cut tail," probably in reference to some totemic animal such as the bear or wildcat. Hodge, II, p. 682.

Tampico

Village in Whiteside County, named from the city in Mexico. Gannett, p. 296.

Taylor's Lake

Lake in Lake County, named for an early settler. Le Baron and Co., *The Past and Present of Lake County, Illinois*, p. 245.

Taylorville

City and township in Christian County, named for John Taylor, one of the commissioners who located the county seat. Gannett, p. 297.

Tazewell

County, named for Littleton W. Tazewell, Governor of Virginia, 1834-1836. Gannett. p. 297.

Tennessee

Township and village in McDonough County, named for the native state of the founders. Gannett, p. 298. The word is derived from *Tă'năsî* or *Tănsî'*, which was the name of two or more early Cherokee settle-

ments. The name has lost its meaning. Hodge, II, p. 729.

Terra Cotta

Village in McHenry County, named by W. D. Gates for the terra cotta works here. Stennett, p. 129.

Teutopolis

Village in Effingham County, originally settled by a colony of Germans from Cincinnati. The word is formed from *Teuton*, the ancient name of a German tribe, and *polis*, added as a suffix. Gannett, p. 299.

Texas City

Village in Saline County, named for the state of that name. The word as used by the Hasinai tribes meant "friends" or "allies." Hodge, II, p. 738.

Thawville

Village in Iroquois County, named for William Thaw, a Pittsburgh railroad man. Beckwith, *History of Iroquois County*, p. 456.

Thebes

Village in Alexander County, named from the city in Egypt. Perrin, *History of Alexander, Union and Pulaski Counties*, p. 497. The place was formerly called Sparhawk's Landing.

Thomasboro

Village in Champaign County, named for John Thomas, an early settler. Gannett, p. 299.

Thompson

Township in Jo Daviess County, named for C. C. Thompson, an early settler. Kett and Co., *History of Jo Daviess County*, p. 611.

Ticona

Town in La Salle County. The word is a perversion of Tonica, the name of another town nearby. *Barge MS.*

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Tioga

Village in Hancock County, named from the Iroquois village of that name in Pennsylvania. The word means "where it forks." Hodge, II, p. 755.

Tiskilwa

Town in Bureau County. Some authorities say it is from the Indian word *chitchishkwa*, meaning "plover." It may also be derived from *chichkinwa*, meaning "an old boy," used in the sense of "an old bachelor." Haines, p. 789.

Toledo

Village in Cumberland County, named from the city in Ohio, which was named from the city in Spain. Gannett, p. 301.

Tolono

Township and village in Champaign County. This word was coined by J. B. Calhoun of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Ackerman, p. 127.

Toluca

City in Marshall County, named by the founders from the city in Mexico. Gannett, p. 301.

Tonica

Village in La Salle County. The authorities are not agreed as to the origin and meaning of the word. The Handbook accepts the origin as being from *ta*, an article, *uni*, meaning "people," and *ka*, a nominal suffix. The tribe forming a distinct linguistic family known as Tonikan, formerly lived on the lower Mississippi. Hodge, II, p. 838.

Tonti

Village in Marion County, named for Henri de Tonti, French officer, who served under La Salle in his explorations and commercial enterprises. Gannett, p. 302.

Topeka

Village in Mason County. The word is Siouan for the so-called "Indian potato." Gannett, p. 302.

Toronto

Village in Sangamon County, named from the city in Canada. The word is Iroquois meaning "oak trees rising from the lake." Haines, p. 790.

Toulon

Town in Stark County, named from a village in Tennessee. Leeson, *Documents and Biography Pertaining to the Settlement and Progress of Stark County, Illinois*, p. 260.

Towanda

Village in McLean County. The word in the Delaware dialect means "where we bury the dead." Gannett, p. 303.

Triumph

Village in La Salle County, so named by the successful parties in a contest over the establishment of a post office. Stennett, p. 131.

Troy Grove

Village in La Salle County, named from a grove which was named for an early settler. Stennett, p. 131.

Tucker

Village in Kankakee County, named for J. F. Tucker, former General Superintendent of the Illinois Central Railroad. The place was formerly called La Prairie, then Martin. Ackerman, p. 123.

Tuscarora

Village in Peoria County, named from the Indian tribe of that name. The word is derived from *skarū'rĕn*, meaning "hemp gatherers." Hodge, II, p. 842.

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Tuscola

City in Douglas County. The word is Algonquian for "a level plain." Haines, p. 790.

Tuxedo Park

Town in Cook County, probably named from the lake and resort in New Jersey. The word Tuxedo is derived from the Delaware dialect in which it appears as *P'tuksit*, meaning "wolf" or, literally, "he has a round foot." Hodge, II, p. 858.

Ullin

Village in Pulaski County. "Ullin was Fingal's bard, and is described in several of Ossian's poems as one of the eight heroes of Ossian, and as 'Ullin, Stormy Son of War.'" Ackerman, p. 137.

Union

County, "so named because of a successful union meeting held in the vicinity about 1817 by two preachers of different denominations." Gannett, p. 307.

Union Grove

Village in Whiteside County, so named from two groves so much alike that they were called Union Grove. Stennett, p. 132.

Urbana

City in Champaign County, named from the city in Ohio. The word is the Latin adjective *urbana*, meaning "pertaining to the city." Gannett, p. 308.

Utah

Village in Warren County, named from the state of that name. *Barge MS.* The name is derived from the word *Ute* or *Uta*, an important tribe of the Shoshone Indians. Hodge, II, p. 874.

Utica

Town and township in La Salle County, named from the city in New York, which was named from the ancient city in Africa. Gannett, p. 308.

Vandalia

City in Fayette County, so named by the commissioners who located the State Capitol there, because they had been led by some wag to think that the Vandals were a renowned Indian nation. Ford, *History of Illinois*, p. 35.

Van Orin

Village in Bureau County, named for Van Orin Cree-sap, owner of extensive lands. Gannett, p. 309.

Van Petten

Village in Lee County, named for A. G. Van Petten, owner of the site. Stennett, p. 133.

Varna

Village in Marshall County, named from the town in Bulgaria. Gannett, p. 309.

Venice

City in Madison County, named by Dr. Cornelius Campbell, who was interested in a ferry there, from the city in Italy. Brink, *History of Madison County, Illinois*, p. 521.

Vera

Village in Fayette County. The word, according to one authority, is from the Latin *veritas*, meaning "truth." Gannett, p. 309. Another authority says it was named for Augusto Vera, the Italian philosopher. Stennett, pp. 88-89 (under Kampeska, South Dakota).

Vermilion

County, named from the river flowing through it. The stream is said to have been named from the red earth found in that section. A theory has been advanced that the burning of shales overlying coal deposits may account for these red earths. Gannett, p. 310. A Kickapoo tribe of this name once lived on the Vermilion River. Hodge, II, p. 882.

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Vermilion

Village in Edgar County, named for an early land-owner of that name. Gannett, p. 310.

Vernon

Village in Marion County, named for William Vernon, former Auditor of the Illinois Central Railroad Company. Ackerman, p. 152.

Villa Ridge

Village in Pulaski County, named by a daughter of Dr. Arter, from their farm of that name. Ackerman, pp. 137-138.

Vinegar Hill

Township in Jo Daviess County, probably named from a town of that name near Wexford, Ireland, from which a number of the early settlers of this vicinity emigrated. The place was originally called Mann, for an early settler. Kett and Co., *History of Jo Daviess County*, p. 609.

Virden

Township and city in Macoupin County, named for John Virden, the founder. Gannett, p. 311.

Virginia

Town in Cass County, named for the State of that name. Gannett, p. 311.

Wabash

County, named from the river of that name. The Indian word *Ouabache* or *Wuabache* which is an abbreviation of *wa-ba-shī kī*, meaning "bright white" or "gleaming white." Hodge, II, p. 885.

Waddams

Township in Stephenson County, named for William Waddams, one of the first white settlers of the county. Gannett, p. 312.

Wady Petra

Village in Stark County. The name is from the Arabian *wady*, meaning "valley," and the Latin *petra*, meaning "rock." Gannett, p. 312.

Walker

Village in Macon County, named for J. W. Walker, one of the founders. Gannett, p. 313.

Walnut

Township and village in Bureau County, so named from the large number of walnut trees in that section. Gannett, p. 314.

Wapella

Village in Dewitt County, named for a Fox chief, the name meaning "he who is painted white." Gannett, p. 314.

Warren

County, named for Maj. Gen. Joseph Warren, Massachusetts patriot, slain at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775. Gannett, p. 315.

Warren

Town and township in Jo Daviess County, named for the first white child born in the settlement. Gannett, p. 315.

Warrensburg

Village in Macon County, named for a prominent family in the county. Gannett, p. 316.

Warsaw

Township and town in Hancock County, named from the capital city of Poland. Gannett, p. 316.

Washburn

Village in Woodford County, named for the Washburne family. Gannett, p. 316.

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Washington

County, named for George Washington. Gannett, p. 316.

Watago

Village in Knox County. The Potawatomi word means "I heard." This word may also be derived from *ahweataga*, meaning "he has gone to gamble." Haines, p. 794.

Waterloo

Town in Monroe County, named from the battlefield in Belgium. Gannett, p. 317.

Watseka

City in Iroquois County, named for a mythical Indian girl who saved her tribe from disaster. This word is thought by some to be a corruption of an Indian word meaning "pretty woman." Gannett, p. 317.

Watson

Township and village in Effingham County, named for George Watson, a construction engineer. Gannett, p. 317.

Wauconda

Village in Lake County. The word in the Dakota dialect means "the good spirit" or "master of life." Haines, p. 795.

Waukegan

Township and city in Lake County, first called Little Fort. The present form is said to be an Indian translation of the former name. Gannett, p. 318.

Wauponsee

Village in Grundy County, named for a Potawatomi chief. The word signifies "dim daylight," or "causer of paleness." Gannett, pp. 312; 318.

Waverly

Town in Morgan County, named from Scott's novel of that name. Gannett, p. 318.

Wayne

County, named for Gen. Anthony Wayne, Revolutionary soldier, and victorious commander at the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794. Gannett, p. 319.

Wayne

Village in Du Page County, named for Gen. Anthony Wayne. Stennett, p. 137.

Waynesville

Township and village in De Witt County, named for Gen. Anthony Wayne. Gannett, p. 319.

Weber

Town in Cook County, named for "Barney" Weber, owner of a nearby brickyard. Stennett, p. 137.

Weldon

Village in De Witt County, named for Lawrence Weldon, prominent lawyer, and later Judge of the United States Court of Claims. Gannett, p. 320.

Welton

Village in Effingham County, named for the proprietor, H. S. Welton. Bateman and Selby, *Illinois Historical and Effingham County Biographical*, p. 647.

Wenona

Town in Marshall County. The word (often *winona*) in the Santee Sioux signifies "first-born child" (if a daughter). Hodge, II, pp. 932; 963.

West

Township in McLean County, named for Henry West. Gannett, p. 321.

West Chicago

City in Du Page County, named from the city of Chicago. The place was successively called Junction,

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Turner Junction, and Turner before receiving the present appellation. Stennett, p. 137.

West Frankfort

City in Franklin County, named from Frankfort, the oldest town in the county, located three miles to the east. Goodspeed and Healy, *History of Gallatin, Saline, Hamilton, Franklin, and Williamson Counties, Illinois*, p. 360.

West Hammond

City in Cook County, a part of Hammond, Indiana, which is named from the George H. Hammond Packing Company. *Barge MS*.

West Jersey

Village and township in Stark County, named by the first settlers for the State of New Jersey. Gannett, p. 321.

West Salem

Town in Edwards County, named by Moravian settlers from Salem, North Carolina. Gannett, p. 322.

Wetaug

Village in Pulaski County, named by George Watson, Division Superintendent of the Illinois Central Railroad, from the town in Massachusetts. Ackerman, p. 137. The word in the Ojibway dialect means "gambler." Haines, p. 799.

Wheatland

Township in Bureau County, named for the home of President James Buchanan, which was located near Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Gannett, p. 322.

Wheaton

City in Du Page County, named for Warren L. and Jesse Wheaton, first settlers. Gannett, p. 322.

Wheeling

Township and village in Cook County, named from the city in West Virginia. The word is said to be derived from *weal-ink*, meaning "place of the human head" from the circumstance of the Indians having displayed the head of a white man on a pole at the spot where the city now stands. Another authority gives the derivation as from the word *whilink*, which means "at the head of the river." Gannett, p. 323.

White

County, named for Capt. Isaac White of Gallatin County, slain at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. Gannett, p. 323.

White Heath

Town in Piatt County, named for two residents named White and Heath. Gannett, p. 323.

Whiteside

County, named for Gen. Samuel Whiteside, an early militia officer who saw service in the Black Hawk War. Bent, *History of Whiteside County*, p. 53.

Will

County, named for Dr. Conrad Will, Member of the State Legislature, 1818-1834. Gannett, p. 325.

Williamsfield

Village in Knox County, named for a railroad official. Gannett, p. 325.

Williamson

County, named from the county in Tennessee, whence many of the settlers came. Gannett, p. 326.

Wilmette

City in Cook County, named for Ouilmette, an Indian half-breed. Gannett, p. 326.

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Wilmington

Township and town in Will County, named from the city in Ohio. Gannett, p. 327.

Winfield

Village in Du Page County. Formerly named Warren, it was given the present name in honor of Gen. Winfield Scott, conqueror of Mexico City, and Lieutenant General of the United States Army, 1852-1861. Stennett, p. 139.

Winnebago

County, named for the Indian tribe of that name. The word means "people of the stinking waters." Gannett, p. 328.

Winnetka

City in Cook County, named from an Indian expression for "beautiful place." Gannett, p. 328.

Womac

Village in Macoupin County, named for and by John J. Womac, a storekeeper. Stennett, p. 140.

Woodford

County, named for the county in Kentucky, which was named for General William Woodford, a veteran of the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars. Gannett, p. 330.

Woodhull

Village in Henry County, named for its founder, Maxwell Woodhull. Gannett, p. 330.

Woodriver

City in Madison County, named from the river of that name. Brink and Co., *History of Madison County*, p. 414.

Woodstock

City in McHenry County, named by Joel H. Johnson, a railroad director, for his native place in Vermont,

which was named from an English town. This place was formerly called Centreville since it was located near the center of the county. Stennett, p. 141.

Woosung

Village in Ogle County, named by John Anderson, retired sea captain, from the town in China at which his vessel traded. Ackerman, pp. 141-142. The word is said to mean "haven of rest." Kett and Co., *History of Ogle County*, p. 616.

Wyoming

Town in Stark County, named from the valley in Pennsylvania. The word is a corruption of the Delaware word *m'-cheuwómink*, meaning "upon the great plain." Hodge, II, p. 978.

Wyanet

Village in Bureau County. This is an Indian word for "beautiful." Gannett, p. 331.

Wysox

Township in Carroll County, named from the town in Pennsylvania. An Indian tribe or band of this name is reputed to have lived on a small tributary of the Susquehanna River, at the site of the present Wysox, Bradford County, Pennsylvania. The name, according to one authority, may be derived from the Algonquian *wischagami*, meaning "the place of grapes." Haines, p. 804.

Xenia

Village in Clay County. The word is Greek for "friendly hospitality." Gannett, p. 331.

Yates

Township in McLean County, named for Richard Yates, Governor of Illinois, 1861-1865. Gannett, p. 332.

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Yates City

Village in Knox County, named from the county in New York, which was named for Joseph Yates, Governor of New York, 1823-1825. Gannett, p. 332.

Yellowhead

Township in Kankakee County, named for Yellow Head, a Potawatomi chief. His Indian name was *Minnemaung* or *Minnemung*, meaning "catfish," and his village was located a few miles north of the present Momence, Illinois. Beckwith, "Illinois and Indiana Indians," *Fergus Historical Series*, Vol. 27, pp. 175-176 (note).

Yorkville

Village in Kendall County, named for New York, the native state of most of the early settlers. Gannett, p. 333.

Zion City

City in Lake County, named from Mt. Zion in Palestine. Gannett, p. 334.

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The Department of Public Works and Buildings has commenced the erection of historical markers at the city limits of all cities on the hard road system. To date markers have been erected at the limits of cities having populations of 25,000 or more, but in time it is expected to erect them for all towns and cities regardless of size. The texts, which are supplied by the Illinois State Historical Society, are necessarily brief, but they do supply in most cases the date of founding, the origin of the name, and the outstanding historical fact or facts for which the city is noted.

In erecting city historical markers, as well as the general historical markers which have been put up since 1934, the Department of Public Works and Buildings is acting on suggestions made by the Illinois State Historical Society, and is working in close and friendly coöperation with it. For its part, the Society is trying to follow the advice of a recent editorial in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*: "The Middle West can be made as interesting historically as the East. The sites are here. Mark them for all who pass to read."

The seventy-eighth anniversary of the Lincoln-Douglas debate at Quincy—October 13th—is to be marked by the unveiling of a bronze plaque on the site where the two men spoke. The plaque, designed by Lorado Taft, will be engraved with typical statements made by both Lincoln and Douglas during the course of the debate.

A tablet marking what was once the Belleville home of Governor John Reynolds of Illinois was put in place on August 27 by Mr. and Mrs. Walter D. Schmitt, the present occupants. The tablet, erected on the house at 110 North Illinois Street, bears this simple inscription: "John Reynolds, Governor of Illinois, 1830 to 1834, resided here." John Reynolds should be remembered not only as a colorful figure in Illinois politics, but also as the author of *The Pioneer History of Illinois, My Own Times*, and *Sketches of the Country*—all valuable contributions to Illinois history.

A marker to Lt. Col. David Strong, first commandant of Fort Wilkinson, or Cantonment Wilkinsonville as it is sometimes called, was unveiled on May 30 by the Egyptian Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. The marker was placed at the edge of the reservation about four miles east of Grand Chain in Pulaski County.

Fort Wilkinson was established in 1797 and garrisoned until 1804. Lt. Col. Strong was in command until 1801, when his death occurred. With his son Joseph and about seventy soldiers, he is buried on the reservation.

Mrs. Julius P. Schuh of Cairo, regent of the Egyptian Chapter, presided at the unveiling. Addresses were delivered by W. N. Moyers of Mound City and William S. Dewey of Cairo.

On June 11, 1936, a bas relief portrait and memorial tablet in memory of John W. Cook was unveiled at the Illinois State Normal University at Normal. John W. Cook joined the Normal faculty soon after his graduation in 1866, and served as the institution's president from 1890 to 1899. He

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resigned to become the first president of the Northern Illinois State Normal University at DeKalb.

On August 1 the Belleville *News-Democrat* printed a full-page editorial urging that places of historical interest in Belleville be appropriately marked. At intervals since then the editors have followed up the subject effectively. As a result, much interest has been aroused, many appropriate places have been suggested, and a number of organizations have decided to make historical marking one of their activities for the ensuing year.

Belleville, well over one hundred years old, has been the home of many prominent Illinoisans. The number includes Governors Ninian Edwards, John Reynolds and William H. Bissell, and Lieutenant Governors William Kinney and Gustave Koerner. The city is located on what was once a great artery of travel—the Great Western Mail Route. Lincoln, Douglas and other famous men visited there. Belleville has played an important part in the history of Illinois, and its past deserves permanent record.

A local historical survey has been undertaken by the Peoria Historical Society with the assistance of the federal Works Progress Administration. The project received the sponsorship of the Peoria Public Library, a tax-supported corporation. Y. A. Heghin, president of the Society and a Peoria high school history teacher, is supervising the researches which include photography, mapmaking, interviewing of old inhabitants, statistical and biographical data and indexing of early newspapers.

Mr. Heghin was elected president of the Peoria Society at the annual meeting, May 28. The Society announced

awards of \$20 in four cash prizes to Peoria County high school students for essays on a subject of the student's own selection.

The Peoria Historical Society has obtained through gift a piece of a rail split by Abraham Lincoln. The rail was displayed at the Illinois State Republican Convention of 1860. William Joshua Phelps, delegate from Elmwood, Ill., preserved the relic. It was presented by his granddaughter, Violet Phelps Lewis of Portland, Ore., formerly of Peoria.

In September the McLean County Historical Society issued the fourth volume of its Transactions. Included are accounts of the McLean County Centennial in 1930 by J. L. Hasbrouck, a paper on the Arrowsmith Battlefield by William B. Brigham, a list of unpublished manuscripts in the Society's files, and other material of interest.

Petersburg, seat of Menard County, celebrated its hundredth anniversary on September 1, 2 and 3. Pageantry, an impressive parade, and a community homecoming were the high points of the centennial celebration.

The first settlement on the site of Petersburg was made in 1826 by Elijah Estep, who erected a "tread-wheel" mill in that year. Peter Lukins and George Warburton were the original owners of the 160 acre tract on which the town now stands. In 1832 and 1833 they divided their holding into town lots. Each proprietor was so anxious to have the village named in his honor that the question finally had to be settled by a game of "old sledge." Lukins won, so the town became Petersburg instead of Georgetown, as it would have been named had fortune favored Warburton.

Petersburg grew so slowly that the original owners became discouraged and sold out to Hezekiah King and John Taylor, who employed Abraham Lincoln from nearby New Salem to make a resurvey. Lincoln's plat was filed for record on February 22, 1836. The new proprietors seem to have injected life into the town, for it grew rapidly and soon eclipsed its older rival, New Salem.

In 1839, when Menard County was formed, Petersburg became the county seat. For four years the county business was transacted in rented rooms, but in 1843 a court house was erected at a cost of \$6,640. Abraham Lincoln, William H. Herndon, Stephen T. Logan and many other men famed in Illinois history practiced law within its walls.

Petersburg is a thriving community in the center of a rich agricultural and mining region, widely known for its many associations with the life of Lincoln, and for the individuals whom Edgar Lee Masters brought to life in his Spoon River poems.

The town of Plymouth, in Hancock County, celebrated its centennial on August 27 and 28. The fifty-fifth annual Old Settlers' celebration was held on the same dates. Features of the celebration were a parade and the unveiling of a centennial tablet.

A memorial service, addresses by C. W. Marqua and George Weaver, and the unveiling of a marker on the site of the first building were features of the centennial of Pleasant Hill in Pike County. The centennial celebration took place on August 27, 28 and 29.

The First Congregational Church of Waverly commemorated the completion of one hundred years with spe-

cial services on June 14 and 15. The church was organized on June 15, 1836, in the cabin of Joseph A. Tanner, who, with his family, had founded the town of Waverly the preceding year. The original members were Joseph A. Tanner, Mrs. Orra Tanner, Mrs. Lucy Tanner, Cyrus Tanner, Theodore E. Curtiss, Lucy Swift, Hulda Lucinda Tanner and Susan Eliza Tanner. Dr. Julian M. Sturtevant, president of Illinois College, officiated at the formal organization of the church.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of McLeansboro celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary on December 5 and 6, 1935. This was the first church organized in McLeansboro.

The Zion Evangelical Church of Hoyleton celebrated its diamond jubilee on August 9, 1936 with special services. To commemorate the occasion a comprehensive history of the church, written by the Rev. G. F. Brink, the present pastor, was published.

On June 28, 1936, the *Illinois State Register* issued its Centennial Edition. Consisting of fourteen parts and 200 pages, the Centennial Edition is one of the most elaborate special editions ever issued by an Illinois newspaper.

Identified with Springfield from the time that city became the capital of the state, and closely linked with many of the greatest names in Illinois, the *Illinois State Register* naturally devoted much of the Centennial Edition to history. At the same time the edition presents a comprehensive picture of Springfield today. Much material of enduring value is included in its pages, and dozens of photographs

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add liveliness and human interest. Altogether, the edition is a worthy memorial to one hundred years of growth.

The East St. Louis *Journal* signalized the completion of its new building by issuing a "Housewarming Number" on August 16, 1936. Although devoted primarily to an exposition of the functioning of a modern newspaper, the 108-page edition contains a number of good historical articles, as well as much material on present-day East St. Louis and neighboring cities which will have historical value in the future.

On June 11, 1936 the Okawville *Times*, published at Okawville, Washington County, issued its "Old Settlers' Edition No. 2." Some time ago an "Old Settlers' Edition" was published, and ever since then historical material has been accumulating in the editor's office faster than it could be used. To make this material available to the large number of interested readers, a special edition, distinguished by sixteen pages and an orange-colored stock, was determined upon. The edition contains numerous historical articles of interest to the people of Washington County, and a number of excellent historical photographs.

On June 15, 1936, the Department of State announced the publication of the fourth volume of *The Territorial Papers of the United States*. The volume covers the years 1790-1796 and relates to the Southwest Territory, which was created out of the State of North Carolina and from which originated the State of Tennessee.

The series of which this volume is a part will ultimately comprise twenty-five or more volumes, and will consist of the official records of the territorial periods of some thirty

states of the Union. Publication of the records was undertaken on the urgent recommendation of the American Historical Association and many state historical societies. The editor of the series is Dr. Clarence E. Carter of the Division of Research and Publication, Department of State. The *Territorial Papers* may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for \$1.75 a volume.

Blaine Brooks Gernon, member of the Illinois State Historical Society and contributor to this Journal, is the author of *Lincoln in the Political Circus*, published in September by the Black Cat Press, Chicago. The book is a lively account of Lincoln as a politician. It is well written, thoroughly annotated, and contains an extensive bibliography. Charts, maps and statistical tables will give it permanent value as a reference work.

The book is the fourth Lincoln title to be issued by the Black Cat Press during the current year. The others are Lincoln's "House Divided" Address, *Lincoln's Religion* (addresses by William H. Herndon and the Rev. James A. Reed), and *Lincoln Group Papers*. All three volumes contain able introductions by Douglas C. McMurtrie, and all are distinguished by excellence of typography and format.

Lincoln Group Papers contains the papers read before the Lincoln Group of Chicago in 1934 and 1935. R. Gerald McMurtry, Blaine Brooks Gernon, Rexford Newcomb, Paul M. Angle, Benjamin P. Thomas, John W. Curran, Otto Eisenschiml, Frank E. Stevens, Clint Clay Tilton and M. L. Houser are represented by contributions.

Illinois: The Prairie State is the title of a brief and readable history of the state published during the summer by

the Bank of the Manhattan Company, New York City. The title is one of a series now being issued on all the states of the Union. Each history is attractively printed in booklet form. The Illinois booklet has been distributed widely among officers and directors of business institutions in the state.

On June 13, at Diamond Grove Cemetery, Jacksonville, a memorial service for Georgia Lou Osborne, former secretary of the Illinois State Historical Society, was held by the Springfield and Jacksonville chapters of the U. S. Daughters of 1812. Miss Alta Mae Speulda, representing the Springfield Chapter, was in charge of the service. Mrs. Henry W. English, state chairman and honorary president of the Jacksonville Chapter, paid an eloquent tribute to Miss Osborne. The occasion for the service was the placing of a lay member marker on Miss Osborne's grave.

The Lincoln Log Cabin State Park, south of Charleston, was dedicated on August 27 with ceremonies featured by an address by Governor Henry Horner. Eight thousand people, including many from distant places, were in attendance.

A replica of the cabin in which Thomas and Sarah Lincoln, parents of Abraham Lincoln, lived has been constructed in the park by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Although Abraham Lincoln never resided in the original cabin, he did own the land on which it stood, and kept it for the support of his step-mother after his father's death.

In dedicating the park Governor Horner stressed the value of Lincoln's example. "When you are prone to become discouraged," he said, "come here and look at this

cabin and think of the discouraging thing that befell our great President. He, during all his life, had only a year of schooling, yet with the encouragement of his step-mother, he trained himself so that he wrote and spoke better than any statesman of his day. He was constantly on the course of preparation — that you know. Lincoln was scarcely known during his first thirty-five years in this country. Yet he patiently prepared for the task that awaited him, building a strong physical body to hold a great mind and a steady hand to guide a palpitating heart."

In addition to Governor Horner, addresses were delivered by Dr. Benjamin P. Thomas, secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Association, and Edward C. Craig, general counsel for the Illinois Central Railroad. Patrick Barrett ("Uncle Ezra" of radio fame) made a short talk.

As we go to press announcement is made by the trustees of Illinois College that Academy Hall, long the home of the Jacksonville Female Academy, will be torn down in the near future. The building has been condemned as unsafe, and steady deterioration has made repair impractical.

The Rev. John M. Ellis, who was instrumental in the founding of Illinois College, was the founder of the Jacksonville Female Academy. In 1831 a one-story structure to house the Academy was commenced, but before its completion unexpected contributions made a larger building possible. Additions were made at intervals, so that it was not until late in the nineteenth century that the building attained its present proportions.

In 1903 the Jacksonville Female Academy was merged with Illinois College, and Academy Hall became a girls' dormitory. It was used for that purpose until 1933. Since

then the Illinois Conservatory of Music has used it for studio purposes.

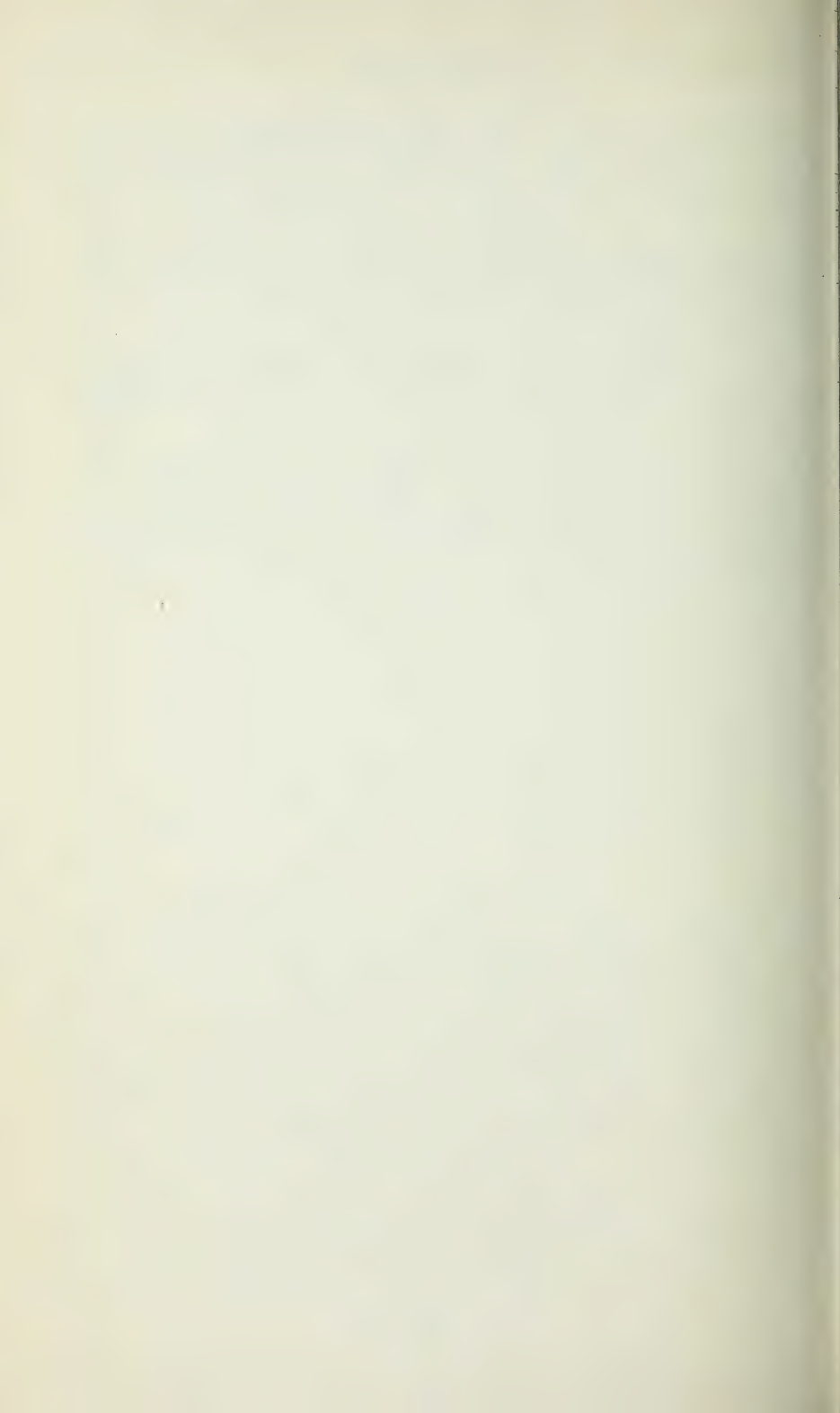
That there is much historical and genealogical material yet to be discovered and made available to the public has been demonstrated by the result of several years of work which Mrs. Walter Lloyd Bender has devoted to Gallatin County.

Shawneetown in Gallatin County was at one time the most important town on the Illinois side of the Ohio River. All trails, roads, and river routes led to this little metropolis. By 1805, a steady stream of emigrants crossed the Ohio on their way to the new West. The salt mines, the large trading post, the grist mill near by at New Haven on the Little Wabash, the large encampment of Shawnee Indians who were not too unfriendly at that time and were anxious to trade with the whites, contributed to the increasing popularity of this section. Therefore, records of every kind and description found their way to the courts of Gallatin County.

Frequent floods, often coming with very little warning, were responsible for the loss of many of these valuable records. However, the love of the early settlers for the court of law was an incentive to salvage court records whenever possible. The court house was a public gathering place frequented even more commonly then than now. In time of flood it was the custom to call in whatever available help one could get and carry the court records to any high point available. For this reason court order books and all sorts of old records are found in the attics of court house, store buildings and even private homes.

In Gallatin County Mrs. Bender discovered many of these forgotten records, dating from territorial days to the 1840's. Most of them were in an abandoned room in the upper floor of the court house. Many other papers and records were found in the attic of an old store building, while still others were brought to light in other places.

Mrs. Bender has made transcripts of these records, and has grouped them in the following volumes: I, Marriages, 1811-1840; II, Census of 1830; III, Settlement of Early Estates and Debt Lists, 1811-1830; IV, Delinquent List, 1812-1830; V. Petitions and Bonds with Miscellaneous Lists; VI, History of Illinois with Maps and Photographs to 1840; VII, Index.



ADDRESS ON THE UNVEILING OF A PORTRAIT OF DR. OTTO L. SCHMIDT

By

*HENRY HORNER**

On this day marking the 118th anniversary of our State's admission to the Union, nothing could be more appropriate in your celebration of the historic event than this honor you do to the memory of a man who came as near being a perfect Illinoisan as any one within our knowledge.

I welcome the opportunity provided by the unveiling of this portrait, to say a few words in appreciation of Dr. Otto L. Schmidt, who served this Society as its president for twenty-one years. Otto Schmidt contributed more to Illinois history, its preservation and its chronicling, than any other individual of our time. He personified unselfish citizenship at its very best. For these reasons alone, I should consider appearing here a privilege. But for another reason, I am deeply grateful of your invitation. For as long as I can remember, Otto Schmidt was my true friend.

I am speaking literally, not figuratively. Otto Schmidt's father, Dr. Ernst Schmidt, was our family doctor and many times he visited our home when I was a young boy. In many respects, father and son were much alike, particularly in their leadership in civic matters, research in medicine, great skill as physicians, and in their warmth of heart and love for their fellowman.

* A portrait of Dr. Otto L. Schmidt by John Doctoroff, who was commissioned jointly by Mrs. Otto L. Schmidt and the Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, was unveiled at the Illinois Day meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society on December 3, 1936. On that occasion Governor Horner made the address presented here.

Dr. Ernst Schmidt (Otto's father) in his lifetime was one of the most respected physicians and citizens of Chicago. Younger members of our family fought for the honor of ushering him in when he made professional calls at our home in Chicago. I recall a scene some forty odd years ago in the sick chamber of my esteemed and much beloved grandmother, when Dr. Ernst Schmidt called professionally to attend her. My grandmother inquired: "Tell me, Doctor, what is wrong with me?" The stately doctor remained motionless, his face showed deep study, and then he said: "Frau Horner, if we could put a little window in your abdomen so that we baffled physicians could look inside, I might be able to answer your question; but science and its devotees will invent one, and it won't be long before that discovery is made. Then we physicians won't have to guess so much."

I often have thought of the satisfaction Dr. Ernst Schmidt would have had if he could only have known that his son, Otto, was to sponsor the first X-ray apparatus in Chicago, introduce it to the physicians of that city, and do important work in its development. That was one of Dr. Otto Schmidt's many great contributions to the science of medicine.

But I did not come here tonight to speak of Otto Schmidt, the physician, even though his place in his profession was pre-eminent and brought him many high honors. Nor can I do more than mention other activities and organizations to which he devoted much time and labor—the Illinois Centennial Commission which under his chairmanship and leadership celebrated suitably the 100th anniversary of the admission of Illinois to the Union; and produced the publication of the comprehensive *Centennial History of Illinois* in six superb volumes; the Chicago Board of Educa-

tion, on which he served during one of the stormiest periods of its existence. His service there will never be forgotten. And his yachting associations held a high place in his interest. In these capacities his services were notable, but others have treated of them better than I could do even if time were available.

On an occasion like this, however, we would do Otto Schmidt an injustice if we were to pass lightly over what was probably the central interest of his life — his passion for history, its accurate recording and its preservation. The formal record of his service in this field is an impressive one. For twenty-seven years, he served on the Board of Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, and for the last twelve years of his life, he was that Board's president. From 1914 until his death, he was president of the Illinois State Historical Society. He was a trustee of the Chicago Historical Society for thirty-six years, and its president for four years. He held a place of leadership in the German-American Historical Society for a quarter of a century. In 1926, he was elected to the presidency of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association — an organization made up almost entirely of professional historians, and one which does not ordinarily bestow its highest honor on those who are outside the professional ranks.

Official position was never a mere honor to Otto Schmidt. For him, it carried responsibilities which he never failed to meet to the full extent of his matchless ability. When meetings were called, he attended if attendance was humanly possible. If time, always uncompensated, was to be spent in the furtherance of a project, he it was who sacrificed his private and professional interests. And when money was needed — as it often is — it was Otto Schmidt

who was sure to become the first, and usually the largest, contributor.

But his concern with history went far beyond the performance of these official duties. I think it is safe to say that no worker in this field ever approached him without receiving whatever aid he was able to extend, and more important, the quiet faith and encouragement which are often even more valuable than material assistance. No one will ever know how many men drew inspiration from Otto Schmidt.

True, some of them were less than deserving, but if Otto Schmidt thought he discerned even a spark of promise, he was not content until he had done all in his power to fan it into flame. I doubt if any one in our time has influenced so many individuals in any field of science or literature as Otto Schmidt has influenced in history.

That he should devote himself in this way was his nature. For beyond his many activities he was a rare personality—a man in whom the finest of human feelings and impulses flowed in a strong vibrant stream. Sympathy with his fellow men was one of his most marked characteristics. His status in life was such that he might have moved exclusively in the circles of the elect, but the bond that unites all men was too strong in him to be ignored. Therefore his friends were to be found in all classes—among the poverty-stricken and distressed unfortunates of his city as well as among its leaders. And as he was able to discern worth in threadbare clothes, he could also discover the lack of it in satins and broadcloth. Pretension, even pretension that was generally accepted, never deceived him. He took men for what they were, and gave them his confidence and friendship if they deserved them no matter what their station. In

the finest sense of noble words he was a true democrat and gentleman.

I have already said enough to indicate that Otto Schmidt was a generous man—generous, I think, beyond our power of measurement. As a practitioner he was generous even in a profession notable for self-sacrifice. As a citizen he contributed to worthy enterprises to the limit of his ability—yes, often beyond that limit. As a man his generosity was bounded only by his purse. Often he must have been imposed upon, but as I have said, I think few ever deceived him. Even the professional beggar might receive a burst of mild reprimand—but he rarely went away empty-handed.

More important than material aid was the way Otto Schmidt gave of himself. One instance within my own knowledge will illustrate this characteristic better than all the generalities I might utter. A few years ago he learned that an acquaintance of his was to be sent to the county home. Once comfortably fixed, this man had met with reverses, and had been compelled to rely on his son for support. Now the son's position had become insecure and his income had dropped to a point where he was no longer able to care for his parent. Doctor Schmidt talked with the son and found that he was willing to contribute all he could for his father's benefit, but the amount was small. The doctor set out to find a family who would keep the old gentleman in comfort and respectability for the amount available. He succeeded—but only after he had spent many days in the search. And I think the suspicion that he was doing what not one man in a hundred would have undertaken never even crossed his mind.

Kindly, generous, self-sacrificing, imbued with human sympathy—Otto Schmidt was all these; but above all he

was a wise man. He knew the human body and he knew the human heart. Without ever condoning faults, without ever lowering his own fine standards of conduct, he was tolerant of the mistakes of others. I do not remember that I ever heard a harsh or bitter judgment from his lips. He knew, too, the minds of men. Better than anyone I ever knew, he could harmonize diverse points of view, quiet controversy, and bring opponents together.

And most important of all, Otto Schmidt was wise in the ordering of his own life. Few thoughtful men find ultimate satisfaction, but I think he did. In his many activities, and in the free rein he gave to his own fine impulses, he found the contentment which all seek but few attain. Can we say more of anyone than that he ordered his own life perfectly?

He was a native son of our State and his loyalty to it was of the purest and unalloyed quality. He died leaving the State of Illinois and his fellow citizens under a tremendous debt to him.

By unveiling his portrait and hanging it in the Illinois State Historical Library we are trying to honor Otto Schmidt. At the same time, we serve ourselves, for his portrait will always call to our minds the features and personality of a fine citizen, a loved friend, and a great character. Who is not susceptible to the influence of such an example? I doubt that we shall ever meet his like again.

FUNCTIONS OF A LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY*

By

HERBERT A. KELLAR

In the course of a long and somewhat active professional career, it has been my fortune to have been closely associated for several years with the management of one state historical society, to have administered the destinies of an organization of a different type for more than twenty years, and in the meantime to have visited and observed in operation, historical agencies of all kinds in nearly every state in the Union.

Interest in the past as represented in an historical society is not a phenomenon peculiar to our time. Such agencies, although formerly less frequent in number, have long been a distinct part of our social fabric, some indeed boasting a lineage which reaches back to the Colonial period. As might be expected, historical organizations vary widely in character. A number may be differentiated on the basis of interest in a given section. Thus the American Historical Association is concerned with the development of the country as a whole; the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, or the Southern Historical Association with certain regions; the Minnesota Historical Society with a state; the Peoria Historical Society with a city and county; and the Chicago Historical Society with a city. Still other agencies make no restriction as to territory, but limit themselves to a given subject. The Agricultural History Society is occupied with agriculture; the Business Historical Society with

* A paper read before the Peoria Historical Society on January 31, 1936.

business; the Catholic Historical Society with the Catholic Church; the Presbyterian Historical Society with the Presbyterian denomination; the Norwegian-American Historical Association with the Norwegian race in the United States; the American Military History Foundation with military affairs; the New England Historic Genealogical Society with regional family history; and the McCormick Historical Association and the Abraham Lincoln Association with those of an individual and a family. Another type of historical organization directs its attention only to certain periods, for example, the Medieval Academy to the Middle Ages; and the American Antiquarian Society and the Clements Library to the early American era. Viewed from the aspect of membership and control, certain institutions are definitely limited in membership and are proprietary in nature, others are open to the general public and are governed by democratic process. Respecting financial support there is again a wide variation. Thus the Minnesota Historical Society receives funds from the state legislature and also has a private endowment. The same is true of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. On the other hand the Indiana Historical Bureau is a state department supported only by state funds, while the Filson Club of Louisville, is maintained by private endowment.

Within recent years the application of scientific method to historical research, development of archival practice, progress of library technique, broadening the scope of interest, and use of modern agents of publicity, have greatly stimulated the activity, value and influence of historical agencies. It is distinctly noticeable that almost universally those organizations which are doing the best work are those which employ such aids to the fullest extent.

To discuss with any completeness, or indeed to merely comment upon, all of the various types of activity, in which an historical society may properly engage, is manifestly impracticable on such an occasion as the present. However, there is always the Bagdad carpet for such a contingency, and if each of you will kindly allow yourself in imagination to climb aboard and find a comfortable seat on that unique transportation unit, we will start at once upon a journey which I promise will cover considerable territory and at the same time, I trust, afford you a suggestive bird's eye view of some of the more important functions of local historical society work.

First and fundamental to the adequate operation of any organization devoted to the study of the development of a community is the *collection of historical materials* relating to that community. In the early days of the organization of an historical society there is always available for use a certain amount of data, the accumulation of previous investigation by individuals who are historically minded. The best of this is of course worthwhile and usable, but much of it will later prove to be hearsay, legend or even sheer invention. For a society, after a reasonable period, to continue to speak authoritatively regarding the development of a locality without endeavoring to assemble extensive original sources of information upon which to base full and accurate statement, is to reveal that its historical interest is superficial and that its organization is likely to prove ephemeral.

In response to this last comment you will say at once: "Granted, but what are the subjects concerning which we should collect records?" The answer is not difficult. If history means anything at all, it refers to everything man has done or thought about. Consequently, you can make

FUNCTIONS OF A LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

your own selection, always remembering, however, that the broader your horizon the more completely you will make possible a full interpretation. A further thought for your guidance is that each community possesses an individuality of its own. Peoria and Peoria County are no exceptions to the rule and due cognizance should be taken of this fact in your collection activities. Again it should not be forgotten that life is formed of both optimism and realism. Neither theory nor practice alone tells the tale sufficiently — the full story requires both aspects.

To offer a few concrete suggestions, the following will be pertinent. In religion there are not only the activities of individual laymen, ministers, churches, and institutions to be considered, but also of importance are the theological, philosophical and social ideas of religious leaders such as the Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis and Bishop Spalding. If you turn to politics, the conceptions of government as taught in your schools, and as expressed in the ideals of your civic reform associations, need to be balanced against the realities of ward politics, the activities of the city council and the administration of the police department. Business, that much-abused but necessary adjunct of society, in its several activities of manufacturing, commerce and financing should be well represented in your files. Account books, correspondence and economic documents of individuals, companies, corporations and institutions offer valuable material for an understanding of the life of any community and frequently have far wider significance. Materials relating to the great distillery companies past and present, which have contributed so much to the reputation of Peoria abroad, the facts concerning Stephen Duryea and the beginnings of the automobile business, and evolution of wholesale firms such as Oakford & Fahnstock and Streibech, are

instances of this type of record. Similarly, there are the annals of agriculture, including the relation of Peoria to the great cornbelt of central Illinois, the commission houses, the stockyards, and the farm implement firms of Avery, Kingman and Holt. The subject of transportation recalls the day of the covered wagon, the horse and carriage, the Overland Bicycle Company, the Eagle Packet Company, the Toledo, Peoria and Western, the Glide Automobile, and more recently the river barge. The documentary record of these and others of like note is vital for the story of your community development. A noticeable feature of recent Peoria history is the striking change in its physical features wrought by rapid industrial and commercial growth, simultaneously accompanied by a large increase of population and pronounced activity in city real estate and subdivision property. This expansion, whose beginning may be traced to the opening of the upland section in the early nineteen hundreds, received its real impetus at the time of the late World War. Materials pertinent to every phase of this evolution are of particular interest to citizens of Peoria.

There should be present in your archives documents which portray the development of education and the rise of your public school system, as well as the organization and service with respect to advanced training of such institutions as Bradley Polytechnic Institute and Spalding Institute. Side by side with these records there should be place for the individual contributions of some of your notable administrators of education such as an Albert Beasley, an Edward Sisson, and a Theodore Burgess, and likewise for such teachers as a Clarence Comstock, a W. H. Packard and a Charles T. Wyckoff. The last named, who is now actively engaged with his cherished project of a *History*

of Bradley, deserves particular honor from the Peoria Historical Society. The arts have not been neglected in your community. The statues in the public parks and the War Memorial in Court House Square are evidences that sculpture has not been confined merely to cemeteries. The paintings of Robert Woodward and the portraitures and murals of Joseph Cowell have brought renown to the city. Music, both vocal and instrumental, has long been part of your environment. What pleasures of an older day does the mention of the theatre recall. The Grand Opera House is no more, but where is the Peoria youth of thirty years ago who does not remember waiting weary hours in line to buy a twenty-five cent ticket to the upper gallery, known as "nigger heaven," to witness "The Prince of Pilsen," or serving as a supernumerary while Maude Adams, Richard Mansfield or E. H. Sothorn strode the stage of that ancient edifice? Architecture has its evolution displayed in the court house and the Pere Marquette Hotel, and in old houses such as that of J. B. Greenhut, on High Street, and "The Garden of Eden," ancient home of the Schnebly family on Prospect Avenue, and in numerous outstanding representatives of a more modern period on Moss Avenue. Materials on all the above divisions of art should be found and added to your archives.

To suggest a less pleasant subject, Peoria likewise has had distinction in crime, as witness the bootlegging-speak-easy phase during prohibition days, gambling episodes and the exploits of individual criminals. Distasteful, perhaps you will feel, yet such activities have been an integral part of Peoria's evolution and records of them belong in your files, overshadowed, let us hope, by more inspiring data. Philanthropy and its attendant institutions, evidenced in the activities of Lydia Bradley, the Proctor family, O. J.

Bailey and many others, is another important aspect of the community life of the county. Perhaps the most outstanding example of civic enterprise, one that has offered opportunity for rest, healthful exercise and amusement, as well as aesthetic enjoyment, for your citizenry of all ages, has been the well-developed public park system, best exemplified by Glen Oak and Bradley. From early times sport has been an interest of importance to considerable portions of Peoria's population. The story of bob-sledding on Hamilton Hill, skating at Glen Oak Park, swimming in the sulphur pools, baseball, football and track in the schools, the Social Athletic Club and the exploits of fireman Davis, or Redd in the Olympic games, offer worthwhile material for the Peoria Historical Society. Members of the professions of law and medicine have rendered worthwhile service to your county and the records of numerous individual judges, lawyers and doctors are a valued part of your heritage. The names of George Page and Clyde Stone, and Doctors DuMar and Miller, and others are known not only in Peoria but beyond her boundaries. From early days to the present Peoria has contributed her share to the military and naval activities of the state and nation. Upon the country's roll of honor are listed Colonel Fahnstock, the Generals Ballance, and others who have rendered distinguished service.

Racially speaking Peoria offers fruitful ground for study. The several periods of Indian, French, English and American occupation all have materials which are worthy of collection and informative in character, as witness the valuable data unearthed in your county court files by your secretary, Mr. Ernest East. Again in the American period there are the European and other racial groups, such as the German, Irish, Scandinavian, Polish, etc., which have con-

tributed to the melting pot which is Peoria. Likewise consider the influence of regional groups which have settled in the city and influenced its destinies, for example, those from New England and the South. Documents relating to all of these should find their proper place in your assembly of records. From a geological and geographical standpoint, the Peoria region has its own distinctive features, the mining of the principal mineral, coal, playing a dominating part in the lives of a portion of its citizens. Archeologically speaking, much is possible of achievement in the excavating of Indian mounds and the sites of ancient forts and buildings of the French period. For many decades the press has been well represented in Peoria, and files of its newspapers and periodicals are a most important source of information for almost every phase of its history. Records of certain individuals connected with the press such as Henry Pindell or Eugene F. Baldwin are likewise deserving of space in your archives. The evolution of printing in Peoria is an intriguing topic. Does there exist anywhere in the county a collection of Peoria imprints? If so, it should be acquired and, if not, one should be assembled, for it would prove a possession of interest and value for your community. The subject of philately suggests a collection of Peoria stamps and this in turn materials relating to the post office and other federal agencies. Literature has long been appreciated in Peoria and literary activities have occupied the interest of many of its citizens. On occasion, as indicated by such figures as the author of the "Siwash Stories," and William Hawley Smith, Peorians have won national recognition in this field. Oratory as well has had distinguished representatives in Robert G. Ingersoll and Robert Burdette. Genealogy or the story of individual families, suggests a fascinating type of record which should be collected extensively. This again leads to a related sub-

ject—that of biography. A few of Peoria notables have already been presented in life histories. There are others, some of whom have been mentioned, whose services are of such character that their names should be remembered in like fashion. Social life, evidenced in the activities of members of the more prominent families and correspondingly down the scale of the classes of society, offers opportunity for studies in manners, customs, and morals. A distinct division of this subject would be material relating to community social life as expressed in the functioning of such institutions as the Creve Coeur Club and the Country Club, fraternal and social orders, and various labor organizations. Economic and social activities of this last group suggest the subject of the relations of capital and labor, the records of which are of much importance for the history of the county.

In recent years two other types of social enterprise—the moving picture and the radio—have been closely associated with life in Peoria. Materials respecting their influence upon the community are not only worth assembling, but in ways which I shall discuss elsewhere, they offer great possibilities for a local historical society. Another type of document of much human interest would be the reminiscences of old citizens recalling events in which they had participated. Material of this sort should be assembled systematically and continually—as individuals die and much that should be collected is otherwise lost. Collection of historical materials must not be confined to Peoria County alone. Effort should be made to assemble originals or copies of data present in other depositories. Private or published letters written by Peorians, describing life or conditions in the county, documents in state and federal archives, and books which mention or describe the com-

munity or its citizens are indicative of records of this character, which might be obtained.

But enough for the moment with respect to possible subjects of collection. As you will have perceived, they are as limitless and as many-sided, as life itself. Just one further thought before I leave this branch of historical work. The Peoria region is practically virgin soil for the collection of original historical materials. If you take advantage of your opportunity intelligently and energetically, within a reasonable period, say five or ten years, you should be able to assemble a collection which would be noteworthy both as to breadth of scope and value of information.

Regarded from the standpoint of physical aspect and nature of content, historical documents are customarily divided into special groups such as manuscripts, circulars and broadsides, pamphlets, books, newspapers and periodicals, illustrations, maps, and museum items. Original records regardless of form are naturally the most valuable and are to be sought in all instances. Nevertheless, it is not always possible or practical to obtain these and in such cases resort must be had to copying or reproduction. Aside from long-hand, available forms of copying are through the use of various kinds of printing, particularly offset printing which is less expensive, the typewriter, the multigraph machine, the mimeograph, and the hectograph. Recent development of this last named device makes it possible to obtain a large number of duplicates at a very low cost per page. Reproduction of original material through photography has long been known and practised, but on account of the financial outlay, this method is impracticable for large scale work. The photostat machine has reduced the cost of ordinary photography considerably, but improvement in this respect still leaves much to be desired. Of potential importance is

"micro-copying"—the newly developed method of copying on film. The advantages of this from the point of view of reproducing a large number of documents and filing them in a small space are obvious. The German Leica camera and several others, such as those developed by the Eastman Company, are already being used extensively in this connection. If an historical society possesses one of these cameras, either of the portable or of the stationary variety, and also a dark room in which it can develop its own film, it can reproduce numerous records at small cost. The developed film, which is usually 16 or 32 milimeters in size, can be read by reflecting it on a screen or by use of a special reading stand which magnifies the films to a designated size, say an ordinary letter sheet. Since the movement of the film is controlled by a hand crank, any given portion can be held in position as long as desired. Experience to date with respect to the taking, development, arranging for use, filing, care and preservation of such films forecasts the early evolution of a new and valuable phase of library technique and service.

Equal in importance to the *collection of historical materials* is their *preservation*. This type of activity naturally falls into two divisions, temporary and permanent. The latter envisages an adequate fireproof building, especially designed and constructed for the purposes of an historical society, where not only can the agency assemble and preserve records, but also carry on its other activities. Lacking such quarters, the problem can be solved temporarily by renting space in the best fireproof building which is available, at the same time making use of bank and safety deposit vaults for storage of the most valuable documents collected.

The possibilities of design of a fireproof building for an historical society are of course varied, but it is essential that in addition to taking care of present needs of the institution,

provision should be made for future expansion. The structure should have a heating and cooling system which will provide uniform temperature in all seasons as well as proper ventilation. There should be a receiving room to take care of incoming materials, an accession room for initial listing of records, a cataloging room for permanent classification and listing, a repair room for the purpose of cleaning and repairing printed items and manuscripts, separate stack rooms for newspapers, books, and manuscripts, rooms for research and writing, a general reading room, an assembly hall with a stage, a museum room, administration offices, vaults, a photography room, and a dark room for development of films, and last but not least, sufficient storage space.

One important aspect of the preservation of historical materials is their cleaning and repair. To cite one instance, the general use of rag papers and the superior quality of inks prior to 1880 makes it possible to clean manuscripts of this period in ways which are not practicable with the wood-pulp papers and less durable inks which have largely taken their place since that time. The early rag paper manuscripts are not only susceptible of being gently washed so that the paper can be brought back to original color, but the process leaves the ink undisturbed. By use of cellulose tape, transparent crepe chiffon or Japanese vellum, manuscripts can be patched, mended and generally restored to service. If protection against handling is desired, they can be completely covered with one of the latter two types of material with the result they may be handled and easily read without touching the original.

A third phase of historical society activity is the *arrangement and listing of materials collected by the organization*. The treatment and handling of various types of historical records present different problems but broadly speaking as

soon as items are accessioned, and those which need cleaning and repairing have been set aside for attention, it is entirely practicable to arrange the remainder either according to chronology or subject so that they can be used for purposes of information. The calendaring and cataloging of individual items is a detailed and intricate process and naturally a desideratum for any collection, but it has been my observation that many institutions greatly restrict their usefulness by failing to accession their acquisitions promptly, frequently leaving them in boxes and packages for long periods until they can be cataloged. Packed and set aside in this fashion they are no use to the society or anyone else.

In most instances materials should be filed according to subject, or groups of subjects of related interest. The actual arrangement is to a considerable extent dependent on the physical form of the material. Bound manuscripts, as for example, account books, ledgers or letter press copy books, should be assembled in series according to chronology. If loose leaf, such as letters, they should be arranged in chronological and alphabetical order and placed in filing cases or in small boxes specially designed for the purpose. Small sized circulars, broadsides, maps, and illustrations, can be filed similarly to letters. If folio or larger size, they should be filed flat in shallow drawers in large cases. Pamphlets may be bound individually with stiff boards and placed on stack shelves with books, but the binding is quite expensive, and they can be better assembled in appropriate boxes, such as those often used for circulars and broadsides. The filing of books of average and also folio size on stack shelves is of course familiar to you. Newspapers and periodicals, where the number of issues justify the expenditure, should be bound in volumes and arranged chronologically according to the individual paper and filed in specially designed stacks.

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Museum pieces should be listed and labelled. Their proper display requires care and thought. When properly shown they are provocative of much interest. Some items must be enclosed in glass cases, others do not need this protection. Storage space is a valuable consideration for museum articles. If this is available, particular exhibits can be assembled and then changed as the occasion requires, keeping material not on display in reserve.

A fourth important function of an historical society is the *use made of historical materials*.

A panorama of opportunity is present here. The collections of the society, if adequate, will offer much information on the development of the community and accordingly scholars, writers and others interested, under direction of attendants, should be allowed to freely consult the society's archives for purposes of research and writing. The organization should likewise maintain a reference division to answer inquiries concerning historical matters directed to it. In this connection, arrangement might be made with one of the city newspapers to conduct an historical inquiry column, wherein a member of the society would endeavor to answer briefly, questions respecting the history of the community. On appropriate occasions it would be proper for the society to make use of its materials to obtain the necessary data and stage or sponsor pageants depicting episodes in the evolution of Peoria. The organization should in addition to its usual public meetings, endeavor once a year to hold a special public gathering to commemorate some event of interest in the development of the community. Attention should be given to dedicating markers, with appropriate ceremonies, at places of historical interest throughout the city and county. The society should arrange to make moving pictures of events of community importance and place

these in its files for future reference. When a number of these had accumulated, a composite display might be given. A showing of this character would arouse much public interest. Historical pilgrimages to points of celebrity outside the county could be organized and carried out, such as to the restored village of New Salem, home of Abraham Lincoln. Members of the organization should join and attend the meetings of other agencies such as the Illinois State Historical Society, the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, and the American Historical Association. Arrangements should be made for members of the society to regularly give talks on local radio stations on subjects pertaining to Peoria history. Representatives of the organization should also frequently address the children in the city schools on historical subjects. In addition to the above suggestions, many of which could be classified as popularizing community history to the community, the society should undertake to publish at frequent intervals a bulletin or magazine giving not only information about the organization and its activities, but containing articles about Peoria history. A further project of great value would be to sponsor the writing and publication of a coöperative history of Peoria County. This should consist of a number of volumes. Besides a detailed narrative account, there could be a volume devoted to biographical sketches of Peoria notables, another to accounts of travelers who had visited Peoria at different times, another to reproduce important original letters and documents relative to the community and still another to reminiscences of Peoria citizens. As a whole such a project would form a record of Peoria life which the society could well be proud to undertake and carry out.

We have now viewed in sequence a number of suggestions briefly outlining certain of the possibilities for the Peoria

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Historical Society, respecting the collection, preservation, arrangement, listing, and the use of historical materials for your community. The picture which, bit by bit, I have endeavored to sketch before your eyes has been created in a spirit of pure optimism. If you should attempt to make it an actuality, that would be realism of an equally high order. And yet, what I have suggested is not impossible for you to achieve. Bearing in mind what you have been shown, let us now end our journey, descend from the Bagdad carpet, and face the future.

It has been my observation of other historical organizations that to take the fullest advantage of your opportunities you need four things: a large and active membership, trained administrators, able leadership and direction, and adequate financial backing. Of these four factors you possess at present only one, that of able leadership and direction, but fortunately that is the most important. Having an able leader it would be entirely possible for you to transfer what are now only suggested plans into a completed edifice.

At this juncture, very likely you may question my judgment, but as a matter of fact, it is only based on what I have seen and know to be true. Three times in my experience I have observed individual leaders, equipped with courage, vision and energy, take hold of the destinies of a society similar to your own, but with less to build upon, and in each case in a few short years carry their separate organizations to heights of stability and performance, which placed them in the forefront of societies in this country engaged in historical work. What others have done, you can do likewise, and better.

No two individuals or groups of individuals, evidencing imagination, would ever proceed toward an objective in the

same fashion. Hence I would not for a moment presume to suggest a course of action for the Peoria Historical Society, for the purpose of bringing to consummation the ideals to which you have listened. However, once that point is made clear, I have no objection to suggesting possible ways and means. The problems of increase of membership, acquiring trained administrators, and providing adequate finances; the solving of which in turn, will in due time lead to the assembly of a worthwhile collection of historical records, erection of a fireproof building, and the carrying out of numerous other activities; should not necessarily be regarded as separate tasks. Progress with one phase will directly or indirectly aid in disposing of other phases. Indeed attack may be made along several lines at the same time.

As a first suggestion, you might use your present membership to write and stage an elaborate pageant on Memorial Day, depicting the several periods of occupation of the Peoria region. The resulting panorama, of Indians, Frenchmen, Englishmen, and Americans, trading posts, early settlement, religious foundations, Black Hawk War, Mexican War, gold rush, westward emigration, Lincoln-Douglas debate, Civil War, World War, etc., would arouse great civic interest. You would have little difficulty in enlisting the support of numerous organizations such as, the Chamber of Commerce, the Peoria Players, the Junior League, the Colonial Dames, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the G. A. R. and the American Legion. Churches and schools would lend their aid. Commandants of Fort Sheridan and the Great Lakes Naval Station could probably be induced to send men and artillery. Musical organizations would provide vocal and instrumental music. The business firms of the community and the public generally would doubtless render assistance in many ways. The press and

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radio stations would give you wide publicity, and insure a large attendance from all over Central Illinois. Further enumeration is unnecessary, for by now you will have perceived the possibilities of the idea. Charge admission to the pageant and if desirable repeat the performance for several days. If such a project was successfully carried out and I am sure it could be, it would give your organization much favorable publicity in the community, and also outside, through the press and the news reels. You would receive useful experience in reaching the Peoria public, welcome additions to your funds, new members, and probably bring to light numerous historical documents which you could acquire for the asking. Once established in the public estimation, as a civic-minded, wide-awake organization, you could then proceed to further activity.

Another suggestion would be to compile a list comprising every organization in the Peoria region. Then invite each of these to take out a membership in your society. In addition enlist the officers of such bodies to obtain further memberships for you among their own constituents. Prepare another list, this time of individuals who represent leadership in every form of occupation or activity which you can find in the community. Ask these individuals and their friends and associates to join your organization. Through the schools, prevail upon children and parents to take out memberships in your society. With the aid of teachers and children in schools and members of other agencies have a census taken of all types of historical materials which can be brought to light. Make a list of these records and obtain as many of them as possible. Where you cannot secure documents as a gift, ask for them as a loan, and failing that, secure copies. Ask the bar association to pass a resolution requesting lawyers when making wills to suggest the Peoria

Historical Society as a worthy recipient for gifts. Compile a directory of individuals of prominence over the age of fifty, and obtain their reminiscences for your archives. All of the above suggestions if carried out, would lead to increase of your membership, collections and funds.

By this time, you should possess sufficient income to begin to employ trained historical workers to take over some of the responsibilities of the society and you could also commence in part at least, to undertake certain of the other functions hitherto outlined as proper activities of your organization. Your income might likewise be supplemented by a request for financial aid from your county board or city council, or both. There is nothing impracticable about this procedure. Many states finance their own historical agencies. If you sufficiently justify your existence, there is no reason why the county or city should not aid its own historical society.

Having now evidenced to the public not only what you can do, but what you desire to accomplish further, according to the law of averages, it will only be a question of time until your activities are appreciated by individuals of wealth and civic pride, and you will be able to obtain from them special funds for a building, and for other purposes. From that time you can, so to speak, "write your own ticket," and will be able to operate even more efficiently.

The historical documents you collect will serve not only to preserve and make known a history of the city and county, but will also help to make known the achievements and mistakes of the past. History constantly repeats itself and only by a full knowledge of the past can the generations of the future hope to overcome the evils and pitfalls

of the present day. In this respect your society can be a force for great good.

It has been a pleasure to dream for your future. My hope is that when you meet this future you will find that the dream has turned to reality.

JOSEPH W. RICKERT

By

ANN STEINBRECHER

Four times every week-day the residents of Waterloo, Illinois, have occasion to see their most venerable and esteemed citizen—a tall, erect figure with the aristocratic bearing of an old southern colonel—walking across the Monroe County court house green. Joseph William Rickert, now in his ninety-seventh year, still maintains the practice begun over half a century ago of attending his law office every fore and afternoon with a regularity which rivals the strikings of the town clock. To and from the gray brick early American homestead and the Commercial State Bank, where his office is located, he passes under the ancient chestnut trees that line what was once the old Kaskaskia Trail, stopping occasionally to chat with friends who like himself have spent the greater part of their lives in this quiet, pleasant town situated high above the Mississippi River. The routine seldom varies. The county judge looks out of the window of the red brick court house facing Main Street, sees Mr. Rickert leaving his office, and puts on his own hat; he knows as well as if he had read his watch that it's a quarter to twelve and time for lunch.

Regularity is an essential characteristic of Joseph Rickert and the keynote of his longevity and successful career. Tracing the life story of this man who came to Waterloo in its earliest years and in whose memory lives the tale of the settling of southern Illinois by our pioneer ancestors, one rediscovers the values of natural and moral law as exemplified in a human being, fundamentally rational and consist-

ent, yet possessing the graces of humor and temperament that spell a rich personality. The full flavor of a direct French and German inheritance combined with the southern spice of pre-Civil War days gives to his nature a ripe mellowness not usually found in the county lawyer of the Middle Western prairie. His is the philosophy of one who has held fast the reins of everyday existence and at the same time set his eyes on far horizons. A conscientious interpreter of the law, a fair player in Illinois politics, a progressive citizen in the town which he helped to build, the life of Joseph Rickert, spanning almost a century of American history, bears analysis and appreciation.

Mr. Rickert was born in Vicksburg, Mississippi, July 9, 1840. His father, Andrew Rickert, as a young man was inspired by a love of adventure from his own father, a soldier who, under Napoleon Bonaparte, had endured the rigors of the Russian campaign in Moscow. Upon the death of his parents, Andrew, in 1832, left his home in Alsace, France, where his ancestors had lived over three hundred years, and sailed from Havre for the United States. Settling first in New Orleans, an epidemic of yellow fever, of which he became a victim, pressed him on to a healthier climate and for several years he made his home in Vicksburg. Here he met and married Margaret Slund-Hag of Bavaria, Germany. During their residence in Vicksburg, they leased the Captain James M. White house, a rambling clapboard structure with a two-story verandah overlooking the Mississippi River, where little Joseph was born. In 1845 the elder Rickert purchased a farm in Monroe County, Illinois, and in the spring of that year he and his family took the steamer *James M. White* up the Mississippi to St. Louis. The steamboat of which Mr. White was captain carried "the horns" in recognition of having

broken all records for speed in races on the Mississippi River. This trophy, a pair of large, gilded ox-horns, was fastened to a pedestal on the upper fore-deck of the boat. The departure from his old home is a vivid recollection of Joseph Rickert's childhood. The speed of the boat rounding the bend after leaving Vicksburg was greater than any the four-year-old boy had yet known and in amazement he clung to his mother's skirts, crying: "Look, Mother, the trees are running away!"

The new farm of the Rickerts was located in Tiptown, a community of settlers direct from Tipperary and other counties in Ireland. Thus little Joseph received his early schooling under the tutelage of two Irishmen, William ("Piper") Walsh and his nephew, Edmund Walsh. Both were excellent teachers. McGuffey's Fourth Reader, Webster's Spelling Book, Ray's Arithmetic and Lindley Murray's English Grammar lighted the children down the rocky path of knowledge, while the reward of handfuls of pins, contributed by pupils of the class, goaded them on to high marks. Joseph William usually went home with all of the pins, and the story went around that when Edmund Walsh took pneumonia and grew delirious he called most of the time: "Rickert, go to the head of the class."

This early aptitude for learning revealed itself further in boyhood. A surgical mistake in the setting of a broken arm in Vicksburg handicapped him from doing work upon the farm. At the age of sixteen his parents sent him to enroll at St. Louis University, thirty-five miles away. In the school founded by the Jesuits and the famous friend and missionary to the Indians, Father de Smet, whom Mr. Rickert affectionately remembers, he underwent a thorough grilling in the classics, trained by the Jesuit scholars to be a facile reader in both Greek and Latin. The modern

languages, French and German, were also grappled with and mastered. Joseph was recognized by the faculty as a superior reader, sharing with Shepard Barclay, future chief justice of the Supreme Court of Missouri, the distinction of reading to the boys at mealtime. Seated upon a small platform above the main dining hall, they read from the works of Charles Dickens, Washington Irving, and Commodore Perry's *Travels in Japan*, and were later rewarded with extra sweetmeats and the honor of being served at a separate table by one of the Brothers. Books early became Rickert's chief source of pleasure. While plowing on the farm at Tiptown during vacations, he always carried a book with him, from which he would read a couple of pages at the end of every furrow before allowing the horse to go on.

Although on the whole life behind school walls spun out in a quiet and restrained pattern, reverberations of the Civil War occasionally blasted the usual routine. The sons of General D. M. Frost and General Harney were both students at the university and friends of Rickert; another friend was Jefferson Davis Harris of Kentucky, a cousin of Jefferson Davis. The sympathy of the students in general was for the South. Messages occasionally were sent through the lines to General Price, until one of the boys was imprisoned by a federal guard for sending a document in a firkin of butter to his brother, a captain in Price's army.

From 1857 to 1864 Rickert remained at the university save for one year when he taught the public school in Waterloo to help pay for further tuition. He was graduated (A.B. and A.M.) in time to cast his first presidential vote at Central City, Marion County, for George B. McClellan in accordance with the Democratic tradition of his

father who had voted for Andrew Jackson in 1832 and for each succeeding Democratic candidate. For the next five years Rickert taught school in Monroe and Marion counties, studying law in spare time, at first under Judge H. K. S. O'Melveny and later in the office of Johnson and Hartzell at Chester, Illinois. In the spring of 1869 he was examined by Silas L. Bryan, father of William Jennings, then circuit judge of Monroe County and recommended by him for the bar.

Setting up an office in Waterloo on the present site of the Commercial State Bank building, Joseph Rickert in March, 1869, embarked on his long legal career. On one side of the sign above the door were printed the words, "Johnson and Rickert," (he began practising as a partner of his teacher, of the firm of Johnson and Hartzell) on the other side, "Deutscher Advokat." Waterloo by 1869 had largely changed from an English and American settlement to a German community populated with Revolutionist families of '48, and Rickert's knowledge of the German language proved a great advantage in gaining his first clients. During the same year, he was elected county superintendent of schools, an office he held until 1873.

May 22, 1873, Joseph Rickert and Miss Minnie Ziebold, the daughter of Gottlieb Ziebold, a prominent miller of southern Illinois, were married in St. Louis, Missouri. The bride had been a former pupil of Mr. Rickert during his days as schoolmaster in Monroe City. Of the nine children born to the Rickerts, the four who have survived are—Nelson A., a business man in St. Louis with a law degree and license to practice in Illinois and Missouri to his credit, and three daughters, Luella, Marie and Marguerite, all of them with unusual artistic and literary ability.

From the date of his marriage until almost the present day, the years have witnessed political and civic events in which Joseph Rickert has played a role. In 1874 he was a representative in the 29th general assembly, the last to convene in the old capitol at Springfield. Two years later he was elected state's attorney for Monroe County and was re-elected in 1880. In 1888 he won by a large majority the state senatorship from the 48th senatorial district on the Democratic ticket.

His senatorial term was memorable for the famous "101" coalition which held out for nearly seven weeks for the election of Major General John M. Palmer to the United States Senate. Mr. Rickert had at this time the honor of being the nominal governor of the State of Illinois for three days. On Friday, February 27, 1891, Lieutenant-Governor Ray came to Senator Rickert's desk on the floor of the senate and asked him to be president pro-tem of the senate in his absence. As Governor Fifer also happened to be away from Springfield, Mr. Rickert was left to perform the official duties of the executive office. The news of this appointment of a Democrat by a Republican spread throughout the state, being the first time that a Democrat had held this position since 1857, and probably the first time in the history of the state that a Republican official had ever appointed a Democrat for this position.

The best known of several bills drawn by Senator Rickert was one authorizing a commission to purchase land at Fort Gage to which the bodies buried at Kaskaskia could be moved before the cemetery was destroyed. In 1891 the Mississippi River, having rapidly changed its course, threatened to sweep away the entire village of Kaskaskia. The interest in the fate of this old and historic town, founded in 1703 and chosen the first state capital, was eas-

ily aroused. Mr. Rickert himself sponsored the act in the senate, winning an appropriation of \$10,000, and Emory P. Murphy secured its passage in the house.

In 1900 he represented the home district of William Jennings Bryan as a delegate to the national convention in Kansas City, where the latter received the Democratic nomination for President of the United States. In 1904 he was made the Democratic presidential elector from the 22nd congressional district of Illinois.

Local as well as state honors were conferred upon Mr. Rickert. Several of these offices he still holds: President of the Waterloo Commercial State Bank, President of the Monroe County Bar Association (member of State and American Bar Associations); President of the Monroe County Fire Insurance Company and also President of the Wind Storm Insurance Company; Director of the East St. Louis, Columbia and Waterloo Railway. All social and educational undertakings have had his support and leadership; through his efforts the waterworks system and the Harrisonville Telephone Company were introduced into Waterloo. The Waterloo Milling Company and the Waterloo Literary Society count him among their charter members.

These then briefly are the outer events and accomplishments of Mr. Rickert's life. A more lengthy description would only confuse and complicate the picture. One who talks with Joseph Rickert today is made quickly aware of the underlying channels of strength and wisdom which have carried his life through good and fruitful lands. One looks into those penetrating, keen blue eyes and knows that they look out upon the world of 1937 with tolerance, humor and understanding. They are not, however, the eyes of a mere

observer. By the alert expression on the scholarly and handsome face, the quizzical smile and roughish chuckle, one recognizes a man closely attuned to the cries and shouts and laughter of a people seeking, as they have always sought, a new concept of civilization. He who as a child was startled by the speed of the Mississippi steamboat, who as a youth walked from Tiptown to St. Louis to school, who as a young man rode horseback through muddy roads to inspect the county schools, who campaigned in a spring-wagon drawn by a pair of mules for his law partner in 1868, has lived to have seen the "Spirit of St. Louis" take off thirty miles from his home. In like manner, he who in the 1860s heard the cries for Negro emancipation, while at college having seen Negro slaves sold at the east door of the old St. Louis court house, today feels the heart throb of both black and white races struggling for the freedom and right to earn their own bread. Joseph Rickert is a true democrat.

His loyalty to his political party is thoroughly consistent with his philosophy of living. Leaning back in his swivel chair, while the soft winds from the prairie gently rustle the papers on his desk, Joseph Rickert might be persuaded to give out a few maxims, if a bit reluctantly. "The fundamental principle is that we're all fellow human beings and we all have certain equal rights. . . ." His patriotism is founded on this basic belief. A traveler in foreign lands, an appreciator of European culture, he takes off his hat to the United States for the freedom and opportunity it offers to all men who obey its laws.

Freedom through order is the concept under which Mr. Rickert has guided his own life. This is most clearly evidenced in his career as a lawyer. Careful study and prepa-

ration of each case, refusal to accept any in which, in his opinion, the facts and the law do not tally, deliberation, and honesty in the court-room, have won for him the respect of every judge before whom he has practised. To use his own words: "If you have an official duty to perform, do it, or resign." In the case of a murder charge against the son of an old friend, he as prosecuting attorney practised what he preached.

The one instance in which he really lost his temper in the court room, Joseph Rickert enjoys telling. Ruffling his white hair with a characteristic motion of his hand, and prefacing the story with his inimitably vehement, "Ha!", he describes the Belleville lawyer who intimated that he, Rickert, was a liar. Rickert saw red, and picking up an enormous legal tome on the desk hurled it at the head of his opponent with all the strength his practice on the Waterloo baseball team had given him. The lawyer ducked and the book sailed out the fortunately open window. The two men were forcibly separated before a real battle could get under way. In the afternoon when they both came to apologize and pay the fine of \$10.00, the Belleville lawyer asked the Judge's pardon first. Then Mr. Rickert stood up, bill in hand, and said that since it was a rule of the court he would gladly pay the fine and furthermore would be happy to do so again should any similar circumstance arise in the future. With a sly chuckle, he concludes: "You've got to be a fighter to get anywhere. Usually you can do it quietly, but sometimes you want to tell the other fellow that you're also a member of this human family."

Realization of the rights of others and respect for those rights Mr. Rickert has never forgotten. His efforts to improve the conditions of his home town have been not those of an aloof philanthropist, but of a fellow member of so-

ciety, seeking to raise the level of human welfare not through dictation but coöperation. The modesty of a scholar and seeker after the right way is more the attitude of Joseph Rickert than the self-assertiveness of a reformer. No sharp angles protrude in his personality. The whole pattern of living is to him more important than the small piece he has aimed to make more pleasant.

His interest in the growth of Waterloo is partly that of an historian anxious to know what the next chapter will contain. The study of the settlement of Illinois from its earliest beginnings, when Father Marquette and Louis Jolliet first traversed it in 1673, has always held a strong fascination for him. Today an occasional pastime is to sit around in the court room and exchange stories of the early days with fellow lawyers. One of these legends, concerning the naming of Waterloo, has been so often repeated it is familiar to every boy and girl of Monroe County; it may, however, amuse those in other parts of the state.

In 1782, just south of the present site of Waterloo, on the old Kaskaskia Trail, James Moore, one of the soldiers of George Rogers Clark, who came out to Illinois with such pioneers as Robert Kidd and Shadrach Bond, built a stockade at Bellefontaine. Years later Peter Rogers established a settlement north of Bellefontaine which was named after him, Peterstown. The two towns were separated by a creek. As they grew closer and closer together and the submersion of one or the other was foreseen, rivalry for each newcomer ran high, until an Irishman, Charles Carroll, appeared upon the scene and made up his mind to end the argument. Building his house on one side of the creek, his barn on the other, he declared: "It won't be Bellefontaine, and it won't be Peterstown, but, Begorra, I'll give you both your Waterloo!"

In September of 1909 Mr. Rickert delivered an address at the unveiling of the Lemen Monument at New Design, on: "The Exploration and Settlement of the Mississippi Valley, and the Early Pioneers of Monroe County." At the same time a satisfying sequel to his friendship with Judge Bryan was completed. He had the honor to welcome and to introduce the keynote speaker, William Jennings Bryan, who had come to fulfill the promise made by his father to the Baptists of Southern Illinois that he would return some day to New Design to honor the memory of the Rev. James Lemen, pioneer Baptist minister. The celebration resembled rather a harvest festival, with long tables set out under the trees for the banquet preceding the speeches. Several thousand people gathered on that occasion to hear "the Great American Commoner."

As a boy of sixteen, "Billy" Bryan often visited the Monroe County court with his father, the presiding judge. In the memory of Mr. Rickert, the son at this time was as modest and retiring as the father was striking and picturesque. Mr. Rickert paints the picture of Judge Silas L. Bryan entering the court-room: "Enwrapped in an old-fashioned mantle, an unusually high, well-worn stovepipe hat upon his head, his feet encased in buffalo shoes, he greeted the members of the bar, approached the bench, and kneeling a moment in silent prayer, arose and directed the sheriff to open court." To this description he adds the story of his admission to the bar. Rickert, who had come up to Waterloo from Chester to appear before Judge Bryan, was asked to appear at the old Ditch Tavern at eight o'clock in the evening. When he arrived, Bryan and two cronies were swapping yarns which they continued to do for the next two hours, seeming to take no notice of the young man who nervously kept his silence in the back of

the room. Finally, Bryan raised his eyes and looked at Rickert as if seeing him for the first time. Running his hand over his bald head, he yawned: "Well, Mr. Rickert, it's been a long day and I've got a little headache. Mr. Johnson's talked to me about you, and I know you've got the knowledge. You just get your certificate of a good moral character, and I'll send in your recommendation to the court."

Other now traditional figures Mr. Rickert has the power to pull back into reality. While living at Springfield during his term as state senator, among the many interesting and distinguished men he recalls meeting are: President Hayes, Governor Fifer, Judge Sidney Breese, Lieutenant-Governor Koerner, Senator Cullom and Governor John P. Altgeld. He was invited by the last mentioned to run on the same ticket with him, for lieutenant-governor. However, the illness and death of a member of his family at the time, determined his refusal.

His intense devotion to his family preceded any political aspiration that might tempt him from his home-circle. Upon the death of his wife in 1900, he assumed the parental responsibility of both father and mother to his young children, six of whom grew to maturity and received a liberal education in the best schools of this country and abroad. To dine with his family, to listen to comparisons of places visited throughout the world, to hear their discussions of problems national and international, one has difficulty in realizing that only a quarter of a mile away the farm lands of Illinois are rolling toward the Mississippi River and that just across the sun is sinking behind the Missouri bluffs.

Mr. Rickert devotes most of his leisure time to reading. French and English literature interest him as much as the

intricate workings of the law and its philosophy. His daily routine is leisurely and moderate; his habits of eating and smoking unchanged since early manhood. At a political meeting only a few months ago in giving his theory on the cause of his long life, he said he thought it was because he "always went to bed with a clear conscience."

Faith and hope are to Joseph Rickert the bases of all religion. In this age of changing values, of meteoric flights to success and as sudden descents, the existence of one who, after ninety-six years of vigorous living, faces this chaotic world with gallantry and composure and holds fast to a faith in the realization of the ideals of our nation, should be a reassuring and challenging fact.

NORMAL AND THE NORMAN HORSE INDUSTRY

Percherons of Today

By

JESSIE M. DILLON

The history of Normal, of McLean County, of Illinois, and of the Middle West is not complete without the story of the Norman horse industry. At the present time these horses are called Percherons. In the early years they were known as Normans. Those who live in Normal today can scarcely realize the importance of this industry locally in the early days. They can scarcely realize also the short time in which the industry grew from a small beginning to its later vast extent. The honor of being the leading town in the leading county of America in this business belongs to Normal, McLean County, Illinois.

The history of Norman horses in Normal, in McLean County, in Illinois, and in the United States is inseparably connected with the activities of the Dillons. A record of the beginning and the development of the business carried on by E. Dillon & Co. and later by Dillon Bros. gives also a record of the beginning and the development of the industry at large. For years these firms were the most extensive and the most widely-known firms of importers and breeders of heavy French horses in this country.

THE BEGINNINGS

The interest of the Dillons in heavy draft horses began before they came to live in Illinois. Their former home was about fifty miles from Cincinnati in Clinton County,

Ohio. They lived on farms and in connection with their farming work they also did some blacksmithing and much hauling of supplies from Cincinnati for themselves and for others who needed such assistance. Through the farming and the hauling of heavy loads over the unimproved roads of those early days, the Dillons learned to know the worth of large and strong horses for such work. Consequently they developed their stock so that their horses were noted as being the largest in that community. They were practical horsemen and when a large imported Dragon stallion was available, Mr. Ellis Dillon's father purchased him in order to further build up the stock. He was named "Old Black Dragon."

During the years from 1823 to 1825 seven Dillon brothers, their father, and their families came from Ohio to Tazewell County, Illinois. As they expected to continue farming they brought with them a number of their best Dragon horses. They were large, active, compact horses, and were descended from imported English draft stock. This stock of horses was kept and improved by careful breeding. They always selected the largest and most perfect horses from which to breed.

Through tradition it is related that as early as 1834 the Dillons came in contact with the French type of draft horses. At that time Mr. Ellis and Mr. Aaron Dillon, two brothers who came in 1824 as young boys with the pioneers from Ohio, became owners of a large gray stallion that had been brought into the neighborhood. He was known as a "Canuck" horse, "Canuck" being a nickname for Canada. His color and other characteristics indicated that he was descended from the French horses brought into Canada by the early settlers. Mr. Aaron Dillon was the father of Mr.

Isaiah Dillon who was born in the year that the "Canuck" horse was purchased.

An incident which made a deep impression on the mind of one of the Dillons when he was a young boy indicates the admiration for and the estimate placed upon heavy draft horses by the Dillons of those pioneer days. His grandfather was talking to a son who had come to him for advice about breeding his mare to a racing stallion in the neighborhood. The grandfather made the following statement which, in the light of later events, seems almost prophetic in its nature: "James, the mare is thine own and thee can do as thee pleases, but thee had better breed her to the biggest horse thee can find. I have never seen the day and thee and thy children will never see the time when a big horse will not bring a good price." The wording of this quotation indicates the fact that the Dillons were Quakers. It is interesting to note at this point that they brought with them to Illinois the sturdy Quaker characteristics as well as the Quaker manner of speech.

It was fortunate for the Dillons that an English draft stallion was imported from England to Tazewell County in 1843. Old Sampson, as he was called, was a large horse and was owned by Colonel Oakley. By breeding their Dragon mares to this stallion, contrary to the judgment of a majority of the people, the Dillons greatly improved their stock and the community gained the reputation of having the best horses in the state.

OLD LOUIS NAPOLEON

After a few years the Dillons became the owners of the famous Norman horse, Old Louis Napoleon. This stallion was imported from France in 1851 by Messrs. Martin and Fullerton of Milford Center, Ohio. He was the first Nor-

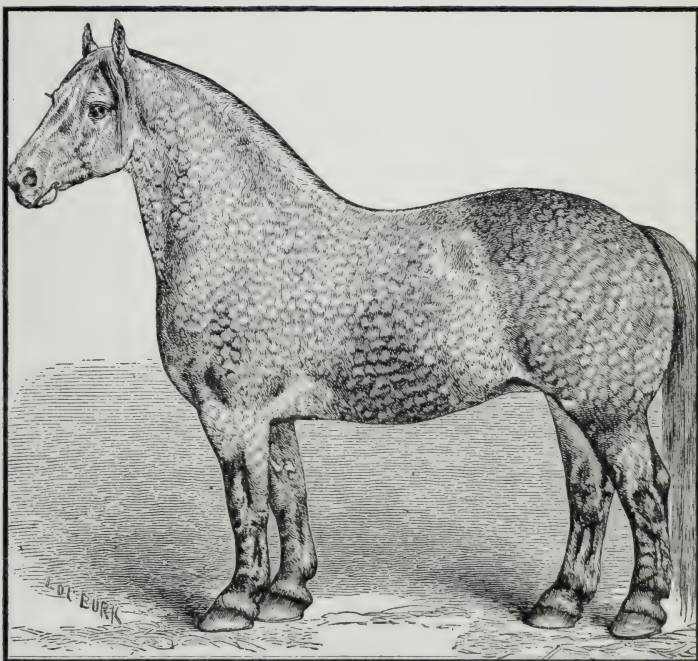
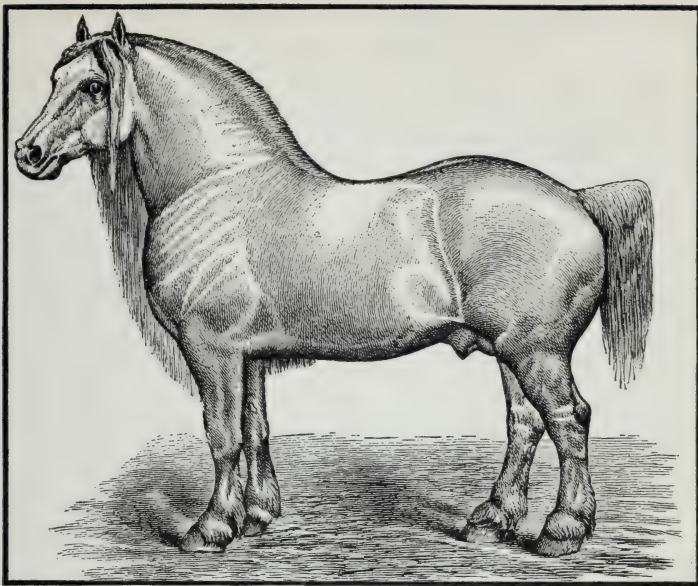
man imported to the Mississippi Valley. Two other horses, Normandy and Gray Billy, were imported to Ohio later in the same year by Dr. Marcus Brown. In 1854 Mr. A. P. Cushman bought Old Louis Napoleon for \$1,500 and brought him to his home in Waynesville, DeWitt County, Illinois. He was the first Norman horse brought to Illinois.

The purchase of Old Louis Napoleon by the Dillons was in harmony with their long-continued policy of improving their stock whenever there was an opportunity to do so. This particular opportunity came in the fall of 1857 when Mr. Cushman decided he wanted some one to handle his horse for him. He went to Mr. Levi Dillon with an offer that he should take the horse and divide the profits. When Mr. Dillon told him he did not care to enter into an arrangement of that kind, Mr. Cushman offered to sell the horse or at least a part interest in him. This offer was more to his liking, so he talked the matter over with his brother Isaiah. The two brothers decided to buy a half-interest in Old Louis Napoleon for \$1,000. The people who had not learned the value of large, strong horses thought this was a very poor bargain. The brothers considered they were fortunate in securing an interest in such a horse.

By breeding the heavy mares which they had already developed to Old Louis Napoleon the Dillons obtained a stock of horses superior to anything they or any one else had raised in this region. Among them were such mares as Lady Hattie, Delia, Lady Margaret, Queen Isabella, and Polly Ann, all of which were noted premium mares; and such stallions as Louis the Second, Little Giant, Great Western, Honest Abe, and Farmer's Interest, which sold for \$2,000 each.

Later on Mr. Cushman traded two of Old Louis Napoleon's colts to Mr. Levi Dillon for his interest in him. Still later he sold a half-interest to a man from southern Illinois and wished to locate the horse there permanently. Since he had begun to realize something of the real worth of the horse as a breeder and wished to keep him in central Illinois, Mr. Isaiah Dillon bought the interest of the southern Illinois man. Mr. Ellis Dillon then bought Mr. Cushman's interest and Old Louis Napoleon belonged entirely to the Dillons at a cost of \$2,000. These last two transactions took place in 1864 at Decatur where the Illinois State Fair was being held. Old Louis Napoleon remained in the possession of the Dillons until his death, August 13, 1871, at the age of twenty-three years. Could the Dillons have looked into the future they would have experienced even greater pleasure in their full ownership of this horse.

Old Louis Napoleon was of good form, well built, compact, dark dapple gray when young, and snow white at the time of his death. He was sixteen hands high. His usual weight was 1,650 pounds. At one time he weighed 1,825 pounds. He was the father of a wonderful family of draft horses. He proved to be one of the most remarkable breeders ever imported into the United States. He was the sire of more than four hundred successful stallions. He was possessed of an iron constitution and was used for breeding purposes up to the time of his death. The value that Old Louis Napoleon was to this country can hardly be estimated. He proved to the people the superiority of the Norman stock. His success as a breeder was the direct cause of the importation to the United States of hundreds of Norman horses. Out of the career of Old Louis Napoleon grew the later popularity of Norman horses and the



OLD LOUIS NAPOLEON AND MODESTY G
Old Louis Napoleon (Above) Was the First
Imported Norman Horse Owned By E.
Dillon & Co. Modesty G Was the Most
Noted Show Mare of Her Time

great industry connected with the heavy French draft horses in the Middle West.

MOVING TO NORMAL

More and more the Dillons became impressed with the possibilities of and the necessity for improving the quality of draft horses if they were to meet effectively the growing demands put upon them. They decided to specialize in that line of work. With that decision came the necessity for better facilities for the business. California seemed to be a desirable place, so in 1863 they disposed of their property in Tazewell County and planned to take their Norman horses to the Far West and carry on the work there. The carrying out of this plan was delayed by the difficulties and the increasing dangers of western overland travel at that time, especially the dangers from Indian raids. Finally the plan was given up. Then began a search for a suitable location in central Illinois. Messrs. Ellis and Levi Dillon started out on this mission. They had visited several counties and had not found a desirable location, when almost by chance they found three pieces of land near Normal which suited them.

One of these farms was northeast of Normal, east of the place where the Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Childrens' School is located, and north of the Alton Railroad. The second farm was located south of the first one and was separated from it by the Alton Railroad which was known as the Chicago and Alton Railroad at that time. The third farm was located on the south side of the Ash Street road two and a half miles east of Normal. Normal, which was within easy reach of the farms, was a growing village with excellent educational facilities. Bloomington was already a good railroad center which was also easily accessible.



MEMBERS OF E. DILLON & Co.

Ellis Dillon (Upper Left), Isaiah Dillon (Upper Right),
Levi Dillon (Lower Left), Adolphus Dillon

The searchers were well pleased to find a location so well suited to their needs.

At this place it may be recorded that each year from 1870 to the present time one or more members of the Isaiah Dillon family, as well as members of the other Dillon families during many of the years, have been enrolled in the Illinois State Normal University as students or have served on the faculty of that institution.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BUSINESS

To obtain effective cooperation in their chosen work a partnership known as E. Dillon & Co. was established. This firm was composed of Ellis Dillon and his nephews, Isaiah and Levi Dillon, who had lived in his home from early childhood after the death of their parents.

Mr. Isaiah Dillon located on the Ash Street farm. Mr. Levi Dillon located on the farm northeast of Normal and north of the Chicago and Alton Railroad. Mr. Ellis Dillon established his home in Bloomington at the northwest corner of Center and Lee streets in order to look after the interests of the firm in the city. In 1876 he moved to Normal and located at the northeast corner of Cherry and Oak streets. In 1872 Mr. Adolphus Dillon, son of Mr. Ellis Dillon, became a member of the firm and in 1875 he located on the farm northeast of Normal and south of the Chicago and Alton Railroad.

Soon after acquiring an interest in Old Louis Napoleon the Dillons began to see the possibilities growing out of owning and using as many of his colts as they could secure. Consequently they were willing to pay from \$100 to \$200 at weaning time for his colts foaled by good mares belonging to other people in the vicinity. By 1867 they had acquired a large number of half-Norman mares of fine qual-

ity. Then arose the problem of finding a good stallion to which to breed these mares from Old Louis Napoleon. They had decided that inbreeding was not advisable.

What to do with Old Louis Napoleon's stallion colts was another problem to work out. People in general had not learned to appreciate the value of Norman horses and many breeders would not buy the stallions except on long time payments. The best arrangement that could be made was to find men who would take them on shares.

While looking after one of these stallions that had been placed in Wisconsin, a solution, at least temporary, was found to the other problem. In the winter of 1868 Mr. Isaiah Dillon made a trip to see the horse that had been placed in Wisconsin. On the return trip while waiting for a train in Chicago, he by chance heard two men talking about three French stallions that had been seen in Crestline, Ohio. He was interested at once and made haste to learn what he could about them. So pleased was he with the information, that he took the next train east to see these horses. The owner offered him his choice of the three for \$3,000. After coming home and consulting about the matter Mr. Ellis Dillon went to Ohio and brought the horse of their choice back to Normal. This horse was named Napoleon Second.

By breeding the mares from Old Louis Napoleon to Napoleon Second they obtained three-quarter-blood Normans with style, action, and size superior to anything they had raised before that time. Among them were Theresa, Idol, Ida, Maggie, and Rosa Bonheur which were noted premium mares. Rosa Bonheur and Theresa were particularly successful in the show ring. Rosa Bonheur was shown at twenty-one fairs and received twenty-eight first premi-

ums. Theresa received second premiums at the same fairs, almost invariably. Among the stallion colts were Commodore, Model, Normal, and many others which were noted stallions that sold for prices ranging from one to two thousand dollars.

Upon receiving an offer of \$3,000 for Napoleon Second, E. Dillon & Co. decided to sell him, as they considered this a good offer. Then they were again faced with the problem of finding a suitable stallion to which to breed their mares from Old Louis Napoleon.

THE FIRST IMPORTATION

The experiences of E. Dillon & Co. with imported French horses had led them to think very highly of them. The more they investigated their qualities and their history in France, the more were they inclined to go to this source of supply and obtain their choice for their own use.

In April of the year 1870 Messrs. Ellis and Levi Dillon went to France and made the first of their importations. They landed at La Havre and traveled through the Normandy region searching for horses. Out of a large number of horses seen four were chosen—Mahomet, Paris, Rouen, and St. Laurent. These were brought back on the steamer *St. Laurent*. Very soon two of them were sold. The amount received for one of them was \$4,000. Rouen was sold a year later. St. Laurent was kept by E. Dillon & Co. for their own use.

EXPANSION OF THE BUSINESS

In the early years, as indicated before, people in general were greatly prejudiced against draft horses. They had had little opportunity to learn their true worth. However, the honest effort and persistence of the owners of Old Louis

Napoleon and the hardy constitution of the horse gradually won a better public sentiment.

As time passed farmers and stockmen began to see things in a different light. They gradually came to realize the value of heavy horses. They had sold their half-Norman colts to the Dillons at weaning time for \$100 to \$200. Later they saw these same animals sold at the age of three or four years by E. Dillon & Co. for \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Some men refused to breed their mares to Old Louis Napoleon because the service fee of \$25 seemed too high. When told they might breed without charge if they would sell the colt for \$50 at weaning time, they felt they had a bargain. Then when the colts were sold a little later by E. Dillon & Co. for \$300 or \$400 or still later for \$1,500 to \$1,800, they began to change their ideas.

From such experiences as those related, and from experiences in using heavy horses farmers learned the obvious lesson and began raising horses for themselves. Normans began to be in general demand.

This demand for Norman horses brought inquiries, visitors, and buyers from every direction to E. Dillon & Co., who were becoming widely known. The volume of business grew. The facilities for handling it were enlarged. Additional help was secured. With the passing of the years valuable assistance was supplied by the sons of the members of E. Dillon & Co. as they were growing into manhood. They were true to the traditions of their ancestors in their love for horses and also in their uprightness of character, and readily learned the details of the work. As a result they became enthusiastic co-workers, owned stock of their own, and took an active part in the work and management of the business.

It was facetiously stated for years that a Dillon boy was born with a love for Norman horses that was never lost. The same thing might have been said of the girls. In the same vein it was said that when a Dillon baby cried and could be quieted in no other way, he was taken to see a full-blooded Norman colt, and if the colt was a good one, the baby stopped his crying and was happy again.

Year by year the increasing demand for horses brought about expansion of the business along three lines—importing Normans, raising Normans at home, and selling Normans.

IMPORTING NORMAN HORSES

To supply the great demand for Norman horses as well as to serve their own needs as breeders, E. Dillon & Co. became regular importers and for years were the most extensive importers in the West. The following narrative gives an idea of the extent of the business and the way in which it was carried on.

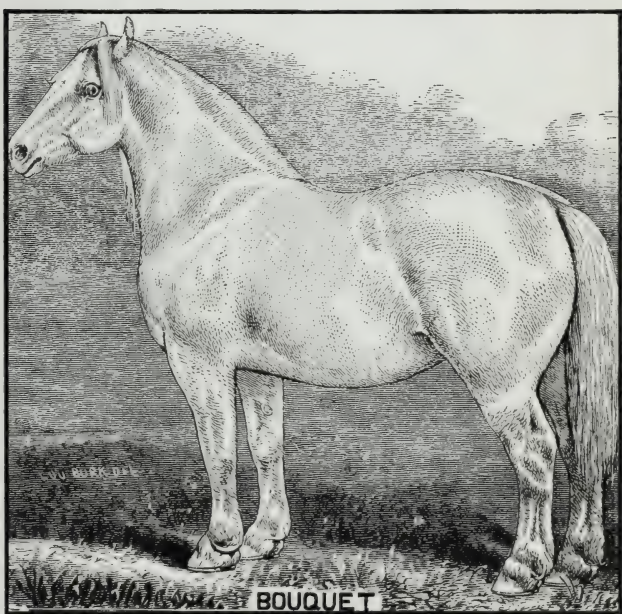
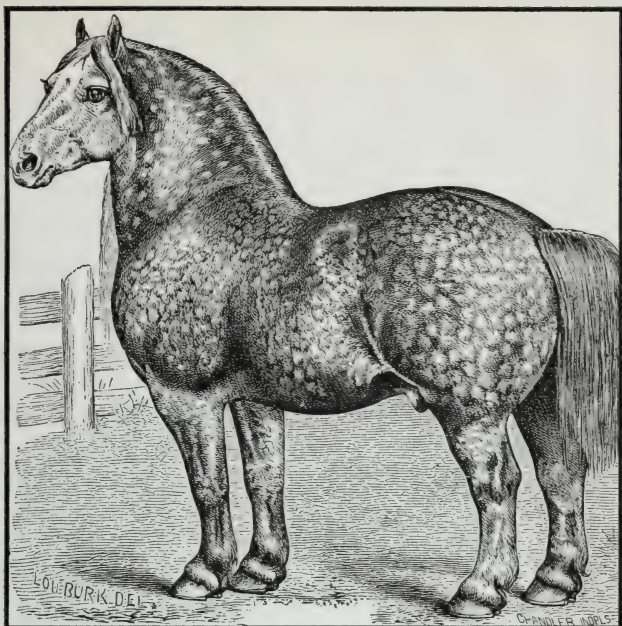
In 1870 four stallions were imported; in 1872, two stallions; in 1873, six stallions and three mares; in 1874, eleven stallions and two mares in two trips; in 1875, sixteen stallions and two mares in two trips; in 1876, seven stallions and one mare; in 1877, eight stallions; in 1878, eight stallions; in 1880, twenty stallions and four mares. From 1881 to 1885 the number of horses imported increased greatly. The average was over one hundred per year. There were eighteen importations in all.

Mr. Ellis Dillon made twelve trips to France; Mr. Isaiah Dillon, nine trips; Mr. Levi Dillon, two trips; Mr. Adolphus Dillon, one trip; Mr. Melvin Dillon, two trips; Mr. Leo Dillon, three trips; Mr. James Duncan, five trips; Mr. James Railsback, one trip; Mr. John Harding, two

trips; Mr. Ellis E. Dillon, one trip; Mr. Reuben G. Bright, three trips.

As in the first importation, the trips were usually made in the spring and the landing in France was in La Havre from which place the horse region of France was easily accessible. The name Normandy includes much of the horse region. Normandy is without definite boundary lines. It is on both sides of the lower Seine River and extends farther to the south than to the north of the river. Rouen and Paris are two important cities of the region. The name La Perche includes a smaller area in the southern part of the horse region. It is adjacent to Normandy with no definite boundary line separating the two.

When the Dillons made their first trip to France, they met M. Christian Helfers who became their interpreter and agent in France and assisted them all through the years in which they were engaged in importing horses. He was continually on the lookout for good horses from which they might select the ones they wanted. He was an expert horseman and was a great help to them in locating the kind of stock needed to meet the requirements of their herd. With their interpreter they went to examine the horses and make their selections. They usually rode in a two-wheeled cart drawn by a Norman stallion, as that was the common means of travel during those years. They traveled out through the country visiting small farms and other places where horses were used. Most of the horses were raised on small farms. There were horses to be found also in barns at Rouen and Paris to which they were brought for sale. One horse of the first importation was bought from M. Pegash at Rouen. Being pleased with the first purchase the Dillons visited his barn regularly as long as he lived.



NOGEANT AND BOUQUET
 Nogeant was Imported in 1877, Bouquet
 in 1875

In 1875 E. Dillon & Co. were in search of a group of horses, a stallion and a mare with her colt produced by the stallion and bred to produce again by the same stallion. Before they found what they wanted the search led them into the Perche region where at La Ferte they found the three they wanted. Before that time all horses for the American trade had been bought in Normandy. These three horses, Tacheau, Bouquet, and Odinet, were the first horses bought in La Perche and imported to the United States. After Messrs. Ellis and Isaiah Dillon in 1875 discovered this region, where they learned they could obtain the kind of stock they wanted, the Dillons did all their buying in La Perche, except a few horses which they selected after that time at the barn of M. Pegash in Rouen. M. August Tacheau, from whom the three horses were bought in Perche, was Master of the Horse for the government and an authority on horses in France. He knew the Perche region, the Normandy region, and the important depots where good horses might be found. Year after year the Dillons bought horses of M. Tacheau and others in Perche whom M. Tacheau could recommend. From these dealings there grew up a strong and lasting friendship between the Tacheau and the Dillon families. The report of E. Dillon & Co. concerning the Perche region interested other importers and very soon it became an important center for American buyers.

The Dillons spared neither time nor money in securing horses best suited to their needs. Whenever they found an animal which they considered would be a success as a breeder, they purchased it regardless of what the price might be. An idea of the amount of money required for some of the importations is indicated by the fact that to pay for one herd that was imported a draft for more than \$60,-

000 was cashed. This money had to be carried with them as they went to pay for the horses they had selected.

When the purchases were completed and passage on the ship was engaged, the horses were taken to La Havre to begin their journey across the Atlantic. This trip was a serious undertaking. For the first few importations the horses were placed on the upper deck in narrow padded stalls which were much like shipping crates. In the small stalls the horses had no opportunity to move and adjust themselves to the motion of the ship. As a result the flesh became bruised and sore. In some cases the scars from these sores remained through life. It was learned that on the upper deck of a ship there is more motion than on the lower decks. Experience and observation brought about changes in shipping. Horses were placed on one of the lower decks. The stalls were made large enough to allow the horses opportunity to sway with the motion of the ship and to adjust themselves to the sudden or severe rolling of the vessel. In preparation for the trip the stalls were arranged so that the horses' heads were toward the center of the ship. The floors and partitions of the stalls were reënforced with heavy lumber. Strong wooden cleats were nailed to the floor so that the horses might place their feet firmly on them and thus keep themselves from being thrown down by the rolling and pitching of the vessel. In loading the horses they were placed in large crates and by a derrick were swung from the shore to the deck of the ship.

During the journey the horses were constantly and anxiously watched and cared for to make sure that all was well. The stress and strain on those in charge was indeed severe, as upon them rested the responsibility for the welfare of the stock and the anxiety lest some unforeseen ca-

lamity should cause the loss of the costly cargo. When a severe storm occurred on these journeys the situation was something terrible to contemplate. In the first place fresh air was kept out by the necessary closing up of the hatchways. The rolling and pitching of the ship threw the horses about in their stalls and they had to exert themselves to the very limit while the storm lasted to keep from being thrown down. There was no rest during a storm for either horses or men. At times one or more horses lost their footing and fell. Then the attendants had to exert all their strength and ingenuity to get them to their feet again. If the horses did not become exhausted, if the stalls did not break down, and if the storm did not last too long, the horses had a chance for their lives. By thoroughness and painstaking effort the Dillons were particularly successful in their ocean shipping.

One of the smaller importers in 1882 started over with seventeen head of horses and encountered a storm at sea. The stalls broke down. The horses were thrown about amidst the broken partitions, against each other, and upon each other in the center of the ship, until only two out of the seventeen survived. In contrast to this experience E. Dillon & Co. during the same year brought one hundred three horses, and a cousin, Mr. Ed Hodgson, brought about fifty more on the same ship with the same kind of care without the loss of a horse and without an accident to any of the herd.

Those on board the vessel were not the only ones who were anxious and concerned about the shipping. The families at home shared the anxiety from the time they received a cablegram announcing the sailing of the ship until a telegram announced to them the arrival on this side

of the Atlantic. There were no radios to bring tidings during the voyage. It was no light matter to contemplate having members of the family and tens of thousands of dollars worth of horses out on the ocean with the possibility of encountering disastrous storms or other dangerous situations which might mean death to loved ones or serious financial misfortune or both. Ocean travel in those days had not advanced to what science and experience have made it today.

When the vessel reached New York, to which place the horses were usually shipped, or Boston, as on one trip, the horses were transferred as promptly as possible to railroad cars which had been equipped by some member of the company sent East to assist in the transfer. If ordinary freight cars were used, two horses were placed in stalls built in each end of the car with feeding facilities and feed in the center of the car. Palace horse cars were used when available as they were in later years. When large numbers of horses were brought, a special train was provided. Such a train showing United States flags and French flags attracted a great deal of attention all along the route. Its arrival in Bloomington — the horses were usually shipped over the Big Four Railroad — was announced ahead of time and large numbers of people assembled to witness the arrival and the unloading of the powerful French horses, and to greet those who had brought them over. Such occasions took on the appearance of crowds assembled to witness the unloading of a circus, and they remained long in the memories of those who were present.

RAISING NORMANS AT HOME

It was not primarily for the purpose of realizing profits directly from importations that that work was carried on.

The Dillons specialized in home breeding; consequently their main object in importing was to improve their own stock of horses. Their ambition always was to possess the finest herd of draft horses that could be developed.

Time, thought, money, and energy were devoted constantly to this part of the business. It was the department out of which the other lines of work grew. Many and varied were the activities connected with it. These activities were perhaps not so apparent to an outsider as some others, but they were fundamental. With expert care the Dillons looked after the feeding, the shelter, the training, and the general well-being of the herd. Continuous and special attention was given to judicious breeding of the best horses from France and from their own herd. They developed a large herd of superior quality among which were hundreds of brood mares. From these came the increase and the profits of the business. It was expected that at the age of three years, full-blood colts from these mares would bring about \$1,000 each.

For years the younger men of the Dillon families were busied largely with this phase of the work and they rendered efficient service. They had grown up with the business and had become familiar with the various activities connected with it.

Five well-equipped farms were devoted to the raising of horses. Large barns with abundant stall room and storage room for supplies, and other buildings were erected on these farms. The description of one barn will give an idea of the size of the barns and will indicate something about the extent of this phase of the work. The barn on the Isaiah Dillon farm was ninety-eight feet long, forty-two feet wide, and fifty-two feet high. A basement and two floors above



CHENELIER AND MADERE
Imported by E. Dillon & Co. in 1880

provided stall room for sixty horses. There was a large number of box stalls. Above was a haymow with a capacity of eighty-five tons. Granaries and shops were also provided. The barn was built in 1877 at a cost of \$3,000, which at that time was considered a large amount to spend in building a barn. It stood as a landmark in the community until the summer of 1936, when it was struck by lightning and entirely destroyed by the resulting fire. Pastures and cultivated fields on the farm supplied feed for the stock. The brood mares were depended upon largely for the plowing, the cultivating, and the other kinds of farm work.

One interesting activity in connection with the care of the horses was exhibiting them at the fairs and other stock shows. From the time when the Dillons owned their first Norman horse they were regular exhibitors at the leading fairs. This was one means by which they were able to bring Norman horses to the attention of the general public. While it brought to light the early prejudices against the Normans, it was a means also of overcoming some of them.

The Dillons were regular exhibitors at the Illinois State Fair from 1856 to 1892. They exhibited at many state fairs outside of Illinois. They were regular exhibitors at numerous county and local fairs. Among the special stock shows at which they exhibited were the famous St. Louis Fair for many years, the well-known National Stock Show—often called the Fat Stock Show—at Chicago for many years, the Cotton Centennial at New Orleans in 1884, and the Buffalo Exposition in 1886.

Each year careful preparations were made for these exhibitions. This included selecting and caring for the horses to be shown, securing helpers, providing equipment, arranging for shipping, etc. The care of the stock had to

receive most painstaking attention during the shows. The expense each year was a very considerable item.

In the light of later events it is difficult to understand the early prejudices against heavy horses. It is hard to realize that at first, when Old Louis Napoleon and a few of his colts were shown, they were ridiculed and expressions of derision like the following were heard: "Put rings in their noses." "Why don't you breed cattle with horns?" One day a farmer from the neighborhood came to the stalls bringing a cow's horn with him. When he saw Mr. Ellis Dillon he said: "One of your Norman bulls must have lost a horn. I found this one as I came along and I wish to return your lost property."

At first Normans were not permitted to be shown in the regular show ring but were shown back of the amphitheater. The judges went there to award the premiums. Another illustration of prejudice occurred when an ordinary young mare of inferior quality was awarded a premium when shown against a superior Norman mare of the same age.

In time public sentiment began to change. At the state fair in Decatur in 1863 a draft class for Normans was permitted although premiums of little worth were offered. At the state fair in Chicago in 1865 and 1866 Old Louis Napoleon and a large number of his colts were shown. This showing did much to bring about a more favorable attitude. A complete victory over the old prejudices was won at the state fair in Decatur in 1869 when Old Louis Napoleon and one hundred eleven of his colts and grandcolts were exhibited by E. Dillon & Co. From that time the business grew with great rapidity. Another victory was gained when horses were permitted to enter the Fat Stock Show in Chicago. Nogeant and Loiret from the E. Dillon & Co.

herd were the first horses to occupy stalls there and they were the only ones at the show that year. These two horses were a well-bred matched team imported by E. Dillon & Co. in 1877. Nogeant weighed 1,950 pounds and Loiret weighed 1,940 pounds. They were two of a four-in-hand team awarded the first premium of \$100 at the St. Louis Fair in 1877 and in 1878. Nogeant was one of four generations of horses, seen in France by Mr. Isaiah Dillon, that were owned and bred by M. Michel Fardouet at Nogeant. M. Fardouet was one of the oldest and most conscientious breeders and was the first president of the Percheron Association in France.

The class of fairs at which the Dillons exhibited and the number of premiums taken convey some idea of the quality of their herd and the degree to which they realized their ambition for their herd. There is in the records a long list of prize animals. In the early years there were many grade animals shown and the competition was keen. A few of these prize-winners have been listed before. In the later years full-blood and imported horses were shown. A few of these premium animals were the mares Bouquet, Evalena, Modesty G, Eureka, Meridosia, Chicory, Ida Valgara, Loirilee, Christina, and Pearl; and the stallions St. Laurent, Tacheau, Nogeant, Loiret, Extrador, Leisure, Papillon, and Boccassia. The imported horses in this group and others from the herd were prize animals at important fairs in France. Many of the prize horses were from home breeding. Records that have been kept show that more than two thousand premiums were awarded to the Dillon horses.

Many instances which might be related demonstrate the quality of the stock and the kind of prizes won. Only a few are included here.

At the National Stock Show in Chicago, Powerful, a stallion, and Modesty G, a mare, were shown as French draft horses against the best Percherons, Clydesdales, and Shires for grand sweepstakes of all draft breeds and each of them won first prize. Modesty G, a home-bred mare, was the most successful and the most noted show mare in America during her lifetime. She was widely known also in Europe for her record in the show ring. She won fifty-five first premiums and two second premiums, including seven sweepstake premiums. Her colts and grandcolts were prize-winners.

At the Cotton Centennial in New Orleans in 1884 great effort was made by Mr. M. W. Dunham, the chief competitor, to show a mare that would win a prize over Modesty G. He told his buyer, Mr. Leonard Johnson, a year before the Centennial to buy the prize-winning mares at three leading fairs in France to exhibit at New Orleans. This he did, although he told Mr. Dunham that Modesty G could not be beaten. When the ribbons were placed in the class for mares four years old or over the Dillons won first, second, and third prizes — all the premiums awarded to that class. The winners were Modesty G, Pearl, and Chicory.

The Dillons entered fifty-three horses at the Cotton Centennial against several noted exhibitors and won thirty-two premiums, leaving less than ten premiums for the other exhibitors.

SELLING NORMAN HORSES

Besides importing and breeding Norman horses there was a third important phase of the business which the Dillons steadily developed. That was the selling of Norman horses.

On coming to Normal a sale barn was established at the northwest corner of Center and Lee streets in Bloomington, the county seat, where Mr. Ellis Dillon had his home for a short time. That location soon proved to be too far away from the farms. The next location was at the northeast corner of Oak and Cherry streets in Normal, to which place Mr. Ellis Dillon moved. In the early seventies the growing business made necessary the use of another sale barn—the Sargent barn located in the 500 block on West Market Street in Bloomington. This barn was used for a short time. Then the barn on the west side of East Street, midway between Market and Monroe streets, was used as a sale barn. Three large barns which were built on the farms gave additional room, one on the Isaiah Dillon farm, one on the Levi Dillon farm, and one on the Adolphus Dillon farm. As needed other sale barns were built in Normal. The Red Barn was located on the south side of Ash Street west of the Illinois Central Railroad and was built in 1881. The Brick Barn was located southwest of the crossing of the Illinois Central and the Alton railroads and was built in 1881. The White Barn was located southeast of the crossing of the Illinois Central and the Alton railroads and was built in 1884. The Beech Street Barn was located east of Beech Street and north of Ash Street and was built in 1883. The Pink Barn was located east of Linden Street and south of the Alton Railroad and was built in 1885. To these barns came large numbers of visitors and buyers from far and near.

The visitors and buyers were considered as friends and the hospitality of the Dillon homes was freely offered to them. Pleasant memories of these patrons as guests in the homes linger in the minds of the members of the families who can now look back and recall the experiences. The



THE LEVI DILLON FARM

The Levi Dillon Farm as it Appeared in the Early Seventies. In the Background, at the Left, is the Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's Home

procedure and methods used in selling, and the spirit manifested in the business transactions, are also vividly remembered.

When a prospective buyer came, a conference was held in order to find out, in a general way at least, what he considered to be his needs. He was then taken through the sale barns to search out the horses that met his particular requirements. Such preliminary data as age, weight, and price were given. When he found a horse that interested him, it was taken out of the stall by one of the helpers and shown where the patron could get a good idea of the form, action, and other special characteristics. One after another the horses were brought out for inspection. Some of them were exhibited a second and a third time in order to assist the buyer in making a choice, either tentative or final. All through the proceedings information was given when it was desired. When a choice was made all the information the Dillons had concerning the horse was given in order that the buyer might know just what he was getting. In this way both buyer and seller could be satisfied. From their wide experience the Dillons were able to give advice and suggestions that would lead to the betterment of the horses raised by the buyer; but this advice and these suggestions were not forced upon the buyer. He was not hurried in making his choice, but was given ample opportunity to make up his mind. All through their dealings the Dillons had uppermost in their minds the improvement of the quality of draft horses wherever they might be and they were glad to serve their patrons in such ways as would lead to improved quality in their stock. When a final decision was made by the buyer, the transaction was carried through in a straightforward and equitable manner.

If the buyer did not find horses to meet his requirements, he was directed or taken by some member of the firm to see horses owned by other patrons which might prove to be what he needed. This might require hours of time, yet it was a service freely rendered.

In order to acquaint patrons and prospective buyers with the opportunities for securing desirable horses, thousands of dollars were expended annually in advertising in the papers and in issuing folders and catalogues. The issuing of annual catalogues was begun in 1876. These catalogues were large well-bound books giving information about draft horses, statements about the work of the company, descriptions and pictures of the horses, and other helpful data.

The Dillon horses have gone into every region of the United States from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast, and from the Great Lakes to the Gulf of Mexico. They have gone into Canada and Mexico. A list of sales, although incomplete, shows that horses have gone into nearly all, if not all, of the states.

A few items from the record of 1882 show something of the extent of the business at that time. The number of horses imported during the year was 103. Between July and December there were sales from the July importation amounting to \$45,000. During the year the sales of the firm aggregated \$109,450.

Not only were sales made to buyers who came to the barns but also to buyers who purchased horses through orders sent by mail. The confidence which these buyers had in E. Dillon & Co. is shown by the fact that horses costing \$2,000 or more each, were purchased in this way. Many letters from patrons who purchased horses by correspond-

ence are preserved in the records. They express pleasure and entire satisfaction as a result of the transactions. One letter and a few quotations from others will serve to show the high regard which the patrons had for the Dillons in their business dealings.

Pulaski, Giles Co., Tenn.

Feb. 12, 1881.

Messrs. E. Dillon & Co.:

This is to certify that I have purchased from Messrs. E. Dillon & Co. of Bloomington, Illinois, an imported Norman stallion, Bayard, and a half-blood mare, Dolly. Both of them were purchased on an order from them, I having never seen the horse or mare until they arrived at Pulaski at this date, and with both of which I am pleased, both coming fully up to, if not surpassing, the representations under which they were purchased. Said horses were shipped at Bloomington, Illinois, on the 7th and arrived at Pulaski on the evening of the 11th (having traveled about 600 miles) in good condition; and I must express my gratitude to the gentlemen for their interest and the care in the preparation for shipment and for sending one of their own number outside of my contract with the horses, to their destination.

Very respectfully,

J. B. Stacey, Sr.

Littleton, Colorado. "We shall always be under obligations to you for your judgment in selecting a stallion, and it is with pleasure that we recommend our friends to you for Norman Stock." Shelton & Son.

Fenimore, Wis. "We admire your manner of dealing with your customers." D. D. Barrows.

Highland, Iowa. "When I want another horse, I will not be at the expense of going to see it, but ordering of you what I want, and I know I will get it." E. A. Moseley.

Belleville, Ill. "We take pleasure in recommending your firm as responsible, accommodating, and honorable in its dealings." D. F. Miller & Co.

"SECRETS OF SUCCESS"

The following quotation from an article written and published by the Bloomington *Pantagraph* in 1882 states briefly but strikingly two facts well-known at that time: "After all, the great success of the Dillons lies in two things—their sincere devotion to their profession as breeders, and to their unqualified integrity. Their first aim, which is written on every page of their history, is to improve the Norman horse and educate the public to appreciate him. That they now enjoy a business of unparalleled magnitude is a natural outgrowth of this persistent policy. On this their great fame as consistent, judicious breeders rests. Their immense trade is largely due also to their Quaker-like integrity, which is as much a part of the family religion as when the use of the pronouns 'thee' and 'thy' was their usual mode of speech."

CONTINUATION OF THE BUSINESS

The activities of the Dillons continued many years along the three general lines of importing, breeding, and selling draft horses of the French type. The extent of the activities, the amount and kinds of equipment, and the methods of carrying on the work have been suggested and related in part as the development and expansion of the business were presented. As might be expected, interesting experiences and numerous changes occurred from the time two brothers, Mr. Isaiah and Mr. Levi Dillon, bought a half-interest

in Old Louis Napoleon in 1857, until the time when these two, their Uncle Ellis Dillon, and the sons of the three of them retired from their active work in the industry. Only a few of these experiences and changes are related here in this narrative.

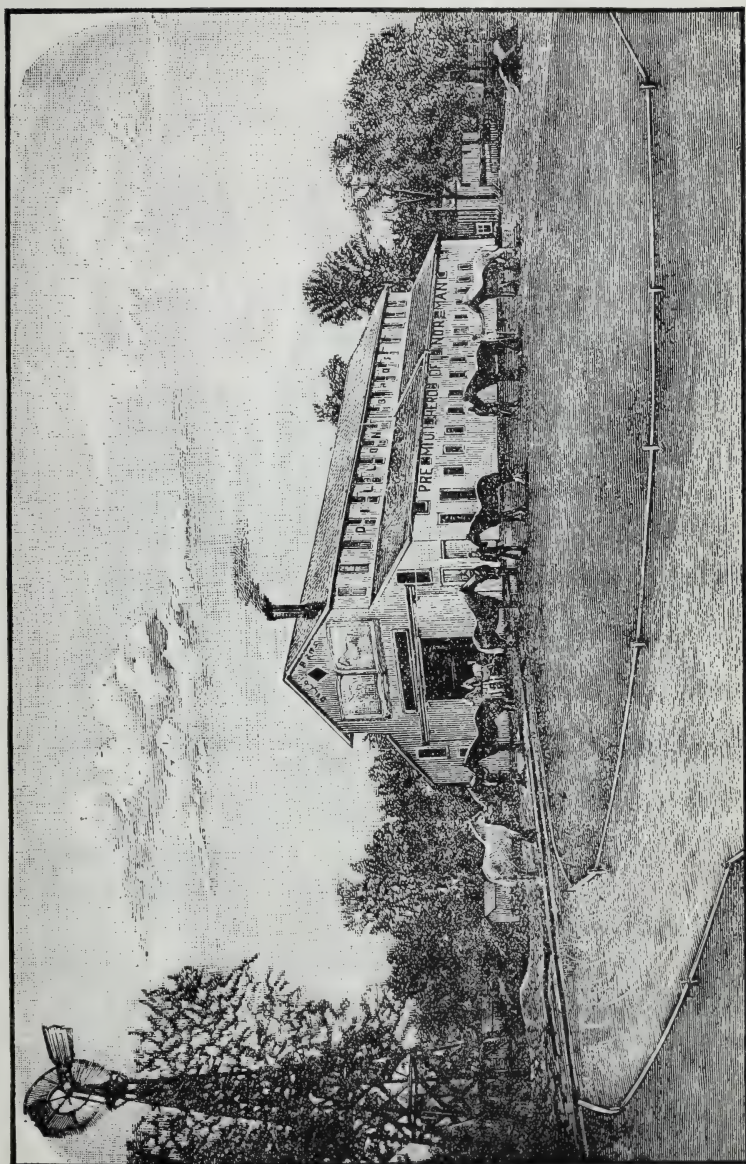
In 1883 Mr. Ellis Dillon, the senior member of E. Dillon & Co., retired from the firm and lived during the remainder of his life at his Beech Street home looking after his own stock farm. At the same time Mr. Adolphus Dillon decided to devote his whole time to the management of his stock interests. Following these changes Mr. Isaiah Dillon and Mr. Levi Dillon carried on the work in a partnership known as Dillon Bros. Included in this firm were three sons of Mr. Isaiah Dillon, Melvin F., Leo A., and Alpheus A.; one son of Mr. Levi Dillon, Ellis E.; and three sons-in-law of Mr. Levi Dillon, James Duncan, James Railsback, and John Harding. A few years later Mr. Adolphus Dillon and Mr. Reuben G. Bright, son-in-law of Mr. Ellis Dillon, formed a partnership and carried on their work for several years under the name of Dillon and Bright.

In the early years draft horses from France were called Normans, as they came from a region where the Norman people lived for centuries and which was and is now called Normandy. Later the buying was not confined to Normandy and the name French Draft came into use. This name naturally included draft horses from any part of France and could rightfully be applied to all of them since they were of the same race. As the buying was done mostly in Normandy and Perche the names Percheron-Normans and Norman-Percherons were used for a time. Later on through certain machinations which have no place in this narrative the name Percherons came into general use. No matter what name is used, thorough investigation and re-

search show that the Normans of the 60's, 70's, and 80's, the French Draft horses of the 80's, the Percheron-Normans and the Norman-Percherons of the 80's, and the Percherons of the 80's and on to the present time are the same race of horses which the French all through the years have called "Cheval de Gros Trait." It is for the raising of these heavy draft horses that the French people have been noted.

The completing and "opening" of the White Barn in Normal in the early fall of 1884 was a memorable occasion. It was one of the barns that had been carefully planned and fitted for use as a sale barn by Dillon Bros. The attractive appearance and large size of the barn aroused the interest of many people who wished to see the general arrangement. A general invitation to attend was given. Special invitations were issued to horsemen and others who were particularly interested. During the evening the prize herd of horses that had been made ready for the annual trip to the fairs was on exhibition. Music was furnished by the Normal Brass Band under the direction of Mr. Am Blackburn. The speaker of the evening was Judge Thomas F. Tipton who delivered an address on "The Value and Importance of Norman Horses." Refreshments for the occasion consisted of wagon loads of watermelons which were served in generous portions. Hundreds of visitors inspected the building, admired the horses, enjoyed the program, and had a very delightful social evening in the spacious corridor of the White Barn.

One of the sad events in connection with the importation of horses occurred in 1883. Two sons of Mr. Isaiah Dillon (Melvin F. and Leo A.) and their wives, along with two daughters of Mr. Levi Dillon (Flora E. and Ida A.) and their husbands (James Duncan and John Harding) went to France in the spring on a trip combining business and



WHITE BARN, NORMAL, ILLINOIS
Built in 1884, and Still Standing

pleasure. Horses were bought and sight-seeing was completed. Passage for the return trip had been engaged and the horses were being collected at La Havre when Mrs. Ida Harding became seriously ill. The time for sailing came and Ida was not able to start on the trip. The shipment of horses could not be delayed. It was decided that Mr. and Mrs. Melvin F. Dillon and Mr. and Mrs. James Duncan should make the return trip and care for the horses as planned, while Mr. and Mrs. Leo A. Dillon remained with Mr. and Mrs. John Harding until such time as Mrs. Harding would be able to make the trip. Instead of improving Ida's condition became more serious. In a few days she was taken by death. It was a sad situation for the three who remained in that foreign land far from home and friends. A deep sorrow fell upon the relatives and loved ones at home. In La Havre those who were strangers a few days before became sympathetic friends. M. Tacheau sent messages of sympathy and offers of help. M. Christian Helfers, the interpreter, was their constant companion and devoted friend. During those trying experiences he anticipated their needs and freely gave most valuable assistance in every way. Words cannot express the feeling of sincere appreciation on the part of the sorrowing ones for all the helpfulness and the sympathy manifested. Burial was made in a cemetery by the Atlantic Ocean in a beautiful spot overlooking the water toward the west and home. With heavy hearts the three who remained made the voyage back to their home and saddened relatives and friends.

After the passing of years Dillon Bros. decided to retire from extensive operations with Percherons, as they had come to be called. Many of the horses were sold at private sale. From 1889 to 1892 Isaiah Dillon and Sons held

a series of five sales by which to hasten the closing out of the business in which the Dillons of Normal had been engaged for more than thirty years. These sales were known as Combination Sales, as they were open to other stock men who had horses which they wished to sell. They were held at the White Barn in Normal. Extensive preparations were made for the care of the horses to be sold and for the convenience and comfort of the buyers. At the first of these sales five large barns and two tents were occupied by the horses. An outdoor auctioneer's stand, show ring, and well-arranged amphitheater for buyers was provided. A large tent for selling was provided for use in case of inclement weather. Similar arrangements were made for all the sales. Hundreds of horses and hundreds of buyers and visitors were present at these sales. Normal was a busy place and took on a decidedly metropolitan aspect on these occasions.

Although the Dillons, old and young, retired from their extensive operations with horses, they did not lose their interest in good horses and the horse business, but kept in close touch with the industry. Three members of the Dillon firms are now living—Mr. Leo A. Dillon of Baltimore, Maryland; Mr. Alpheus A. Dillon of Normal, Illinois; and Mr. Ellis E. Dillon of Chicago, Illinois. As for the members of the firm of E. Dillon & Co., it may be said that as long as they lived they owned and loved heavy draft horses of the French type by whatever name they might be called. To these men belongs the credit for introducing Norman horses into Normal and into the Middle West. They did more than any other men to develop the Norman horse industry. The great wealth and good originated by them can hardly be realized. The emphasis of these men and the sons who came into partnership with them later was always on improving the quality of draft horses in our

country. Through their efforts marvelous results were obtained.

EXPANSION OF THE DRAFT HORSE INDUSTRY

From the time when Old Louis Napoleon came into the possession of the Dillons the attitude of farmers and stock men toward heavy draft horses gradually but noticeably and permanently changed. Before that time they had thought of horses in terms of light horse roadsters and racers that served and continue to serve in some kinds of activities. Gradually they began to see the value of heavy horses for heavy work on the farms and in the cities. They learned that a team of heavy horses can do more work with less expense than two teams of light horses, and that heavy horses of the French type have the endurance upon which they can depend.

By 1870 a few men had ventured to follow the lead of E. Dillon & Co. and interest themselves in the Norman horse business. During the seventies the number rapidly grew. In the eighties a large number of farmers and stockmen in the surrounding country engaged in the business. In fact Percherons came to be the chief industrial and market horses. There were more fine horses of the French type in sale barns and on farms around Normal than were to be found in any other community in the country.

So great was the growth of the business in the territory surrounding Normal that McLean County came to be the leading county in the heavy draft horse industry. A list of names which has been carefully compiled indicates individuals and companies in McLean County that have been more or less extensively engaged in the business. Some of them were engaged in both importing and breeding. A few were importers only. Many were interested in raising these draft horses. Although the list is long, it will readily be under-

stood that it does not and could not be expected to include all in McLean County who have been users of the horses and who have had a part in the industry during the years between 1864 and the present time. No attempt has been made to include McLean County importers and breeders of recent years.

The list begins with Normal as it was there that the business was introduced into McLean County and there that it was continuously and extensively carried on for a long period of time. Bloomington, a business and shipping center with a number of importers, is next in the list. Lexington, having a number of importers, follows. Other places are listed in alphabetical order.

Normal: E. Dillon & Co.; Dillon Bros.; Dillon & Bright; C. E. Moots; Kemp & Lowrey; John Trimmer; Ed Moots; Abner Dodson; Elza McNaught; Samuel Sill; S. N. King; G. W. McLean & Son; George Bohrer.

Bloomington: Robert & T. T. Stubblefield; George Stubblefield & Co.; Dr. W. C. Hobbs; Col. Jonathan Merriam; J. J. Scroggins; F. J. Dobbs; Lewis Forman; Ferdinand Basting; John Morgan.

Lexington: Shadrac Busby; Clagget Bros.; D. H. Vandolah & Sons, George Vandevender; J. J. Kemp, McNaught, Franklin & Co.; Rufus Woods; C. K. Reams; Dr. W. H. Welch; Peter James; Enos Stewart.

Arrowsmith: William Ritter; William Hurt; Charles Hurt; H. B. Maurace.

Barnes: Calvin Barnes.

Benjaminville: Joshua Brown & Sons; James Welch; Charles Welch.

THE NORMAN HORSE INDUSTRY

Carlock: Joseph Stahley & Sons

Chenoa: Copland & Holder

Cooksville: Sharp Bros.

Danvers: Jonah Sill & Son; Joe Ayers & Sons; George Dunlap; Frank Skaggs; L. H. Stephenson; E. J. Stubs

Ellsworth: William Richardson.

Fletcher: John Fletcher.

Funk's Grove: Charles V. Stubblefield

Heyworth: Joseph Baker.

Leroy: O. G. Dooley, Razor & Son.

McLean: David Carr, George Funk; Jacob Funk; Edward Stubblefield; Jesse Stubblefield.

Merna: Griffith C. Coale.

Minier: William Freitag; J. P. Brenniman

Randolph: James Bishop, William Carr.

Shirley: Charles A. Funk, A. D. Funk, B. F. Funk, Duncan M. Funk, F. M. Funk, Isaac Funk, Lafayette Funk, John T. Hill, L. H. Kerrick, John Stubblefield, Lafayette Stubblefield; Thadeus Stubblefield

Towanda: James Killian; Fred & Chris Meherle; Ralph Moore; Ed White

The following quotations from the *Pantagraph* will serve to indicate the importance of McLean County in the horse industry:

Jan. 11, 1876. "From the date of the introduction of the Norman stallion in Central Illinois some fifteen or twenty years ago until today, the typical horse has continued to

improve until McLean County is the queen of all horse-producing counties in the West, and from her railroad stations are shipped the best animals that reach the horse markets of the West and East. . . . McLean County horses have become cosmopolitan; they have done duty in all states and territories."

July 29, 1881. "McLean Co. is the acknowledged banner county of the West in the breeding of heavy draft horses."

Jan. 11, 1884. "McLean Co. ranks first in the United States in the magnitude and importance of her interests in the importation and breeding of Norman horses."

The statements in the quotations from the *Pantagraph* given above might have been truthfully made for many years before and after the time indicated by the dates. Farmers all over the county raised and used the French breed of heavy draft horses. Large numbers of these horses were needed to meet the demands of the industrial world. Stockmen were busy in their efforts to supply the demand.

The influence from this center spread out in ever-widening circles. With the horses bought here men went back to their homes to carry on the work in their own communities. More and more stockmen became interested in breeding and importing French horses. New centers were established and many firms became widely known. Thus the industry grew and spread throughout the Mississippi Valley and the West.

A LONG-TIME VIEW OF THE INDUSTRY

It is interesting and enlightening to follow through a long period of years the changes in the draft horse industry manifested in this community as well as elsewhere.

Changes in the industrial world years ago gradually brought about an increase in the number of horses used until there were about twenty-three million horses in the United States at the high point. Later on industrial changes gradually brought about a decrease in the number of horses used. Mechanical devices, power machinery, etc. were used in increasing numbers. Recurring unfavorable financial situations also were significant factors in the decrease in the number of horses. The hard times of the early 90's affected the Percheron horse industry very materially as they did all other industries. Other periods of depression that followed during the early years of the present century produced the same effects to a greater or lesser extent. The demand for horses was reduced. Fewer horses were raised. Less attention was given to the proper care of horses and to maintaining good quality in those that were raised. The number of horses in the United States was decreased to much less than half of what it was at the time the decline began. This low ebb in the raising and using of draft horses continued for a number of years.

In recent time there have been signs of another change. The usefulness and real value of Percherons are becoming more apparent. There is a growing realization of the fact that horses in a most satisfactory and economic way meet the requirements and satisfy the vital needs in numerous departments of industry. Consequently they are more and more coming into use. Again there is an upward trend in the Percheron, formerly called Norman, horse industry. It is to be hoped that, building upon the rich heritage of the past, the heavy draft horse industry may continue to grow and may enter into a period of great prosperity that will give to our country a stock of Percheron horses large in number and superior in quality.

A COLONY SETTLEMENT GENESE0, ILLINOIS, 1836-1837

By

ANSON M. HUBBARD*

I

The desire has been expressed by the very few remaining pioneers, either at home or abroad, as well as many others, later residents of the locality, that a connected history of Geneseo and surroundings should be published for the benefit of present and succeeding generations of their descendants.

It is fitting and proper that the memory of these pioneers should be preserved and a record of their beneficent deeds go down to posterity so that coming generations may learn to honor the names and value the deeds of their fathers, humble and commonplace though they may have been.

The time is fast approaching, if not already past, when the opportunity for making new colonial settlements can be found — certainly never again on such a rich and virgin soil as this Illinois prairie, almost limitless in extent, having no obstructions to immediate cultivation other than a carpet of grass dotted with flowers with all the colors of the rainbow.

And, therefore, if the writer shall be able to so tell the simple story of "the early days of Geneseo and surround-

* This paper was written in 1908, but is now printed for the first time. Obvious errors in spelling, punctuation and grammatical construction have been corrected, and a few digressive passages have been omitted. Unless otherwise indicated, the footnotes are the author's. Ed.

ings" as to convey to the reader some idea—one whiff—of the moral and social atmosphere of one of these settlements in those days, he will have largely accomplished his object.

. . . .

The first suggestion of the organization of the colony consisting of families was made by Rev. Jairus Wilcox, pastor of the Congregational Church in Bergen. Hitherto the spirit of emigration called "the western fever" had been illustrated by the departure of unincumbered young men anticipating the advice of Horace Greeley to "go west young man and grow up with the country." The idea of building up the country by planting families in the West for the purpose of laying foundations in the new settlements for both religious and educational institutions was now being seriously considered, and preparations for the departure of whole families was the order of the day in the quiet New York community. This movement then may be said to have been inspired by the missionary spirit which was engendered by a religious awakening that in the decade between 1830-1840 had spread over western and central New York.

Mr. Roy in his memorial address¹ given at Geneseo, Illinois at the thirtieth anniversary of the settlement says:

In connection with this grand providential development was the planting of this colony, with its enfolded church and school. Bergen and its vicinity, in New York, had shared, in an unusual degree, the blessing of that revival period. In 1831 several neighboring pastors united in holding at that place a series of meetings, which resulted in bringing almost the whole community into the church. After that, under the Rev. John T. Avery, who was just then starting upon his

¹Joseph Edwin Roy, *Memorial Address and Proceedings at the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Settlement of Geneseo, Illinois* (Chicago, 1867), 3-4. Ed.

career as an evangelist, powerful revivals were enjoyed in this and the contiguous places of Riga, LeRoy, and Stone Church, the church in Bergen receiving some sixty or seventy additions. In the glow of this revival was developed the idea and the plan of our colony. Some of the brethren were moved, as Gov. Bradford tells us the Pilgrims were, "by a great hope and inward zeal of laying some good foundation, or at least to make some way thereunto, for the propagating and advancing of the gospel of the kingdom of Christ in those remote parts of the world; *yea, though they should be but as stepping-stones unto others* for the performing of so great a work." It would be extremely interesting if we could reproduce the scene of those early, prayerful consultations,—the brethren, with their pastor, Rev. Jairus Wilcox, planning, like Abraham, and for the same purpose, the extension of the kingdom of God, to go out into a distant country, they knew not where, and with the courage of the explorers of Canaan, who said: "Let us go up at once and possess it, for we are well able to overcome it."

II

Wherever the white people in the settlement of this country have retained the Indian names of its natural features as of lakes, rivers, mountains, etc., they have almost always, if not universally, found them to be beautiful and appropriate: beautiful because appropriate.

The Genesee River in western New York is no exception to the rule. Genesee, meaning pleasant valley, was the name given at an early day to the territory embraced in the thirteen western counties of the state, which was called the Genesee country from the fact that it was watered by the Genesee River. Geneseo, New York, standing upon the eastern bank of the Genesee, and practically the same word, gave name to the city and township of Geneseo, Illinois.

The name, as indicated above, is of Indian origin, and is perhaps fully as appropriate to the latter place in the beautiful valley of Green River in the state of Illinois as to its namesake in the state of New York.

At the time of the accession of the white people to this country (about A. D. 1600) what is now the state of New York was occupied by the confederate "five nations" consisting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senecas, and later joined by the Tuscaroras and called the Six Nations. And then, these tribes, belonging to and forming with other tribes the great Iroquoian family, which, together with the two other great families, *viz.*, the Algonquian and the Siouxan, occupying approximately all the present territory of the United States, undoubtedly gave names to all the lakes and rivers of their localities, and this name Genesee was one of them.

The Iroquois² were divided at some former period in their history and a part of them were found in the valley of the Tennessee River, and the highlands contiguous thereto, and gave it its name (really the same word) meaning in their language, pleasant or beautiful valley, or scene.

So much for the name. And now, the location. In A. D. 1836 in the month of June there landed at Chicago, then a settlement of less than two thousand people four men, *viz.*, Cromwell K. Bartlett, Roderick R. Stewart, John C. Ward, and a Mr. Cady. The first three named were a committee authorized to find a location, purchase farm lands, lay off a town with all the usual conveniences, with special reference to the church and a school of high grade to be established at the earliest possible time after the first settlement in northern Illinois.

²The word *Iroquois* is the French form of the Indian word *Inokwa*, with the accent on the last syllable, and means simply "tobacco people," as they were greater smokers of tobacco than the other tribes and raised it for that purpose.

Fortunately they met there Judge Thomas Ford (afterwards governor of this state)³ who, in answer to their inquiries, advised them to lose no time in finding their way to Henry County where they would find the best opportunity he knew of to enter government land already in the market for their purposes and outside the military tract.

The committee acted at once upon his advice, and departed for Dixon's Ferry on Rock River—the first point west of Chicago to which travelers were sent who were wishing to reach the upper Mississippi or vicinity.

They did not cross Rock River, however, but continued their journey down on the south side by private conveyance as far as George Brandenburg's who had in September of the year before opened the first tavern in Henry County, now Colona Township. The committee here met James M. Allen and Arba M. Seymour, two young men on the same errand as themselves, *viz.*, to locate lands. Mr. Allen was a young man from Huntsville, Alabama, and Mr. Seymour a surveyor from Chautauqua County, New York, whom he had employed to assist him in looking up and "locating" such quarter-sections as he wished to enter.⁴

³Judge Ford having held the circuit court in Knox County to which Henry County was attached for judicial purposes, and being a man of close observation, and knowing the condition of these lands that they were subject to entry at the government land office at Galena without the formality of making claims, perhaps no man in the state was better prepared to give the information the committee needed.

⁴The survey of the government lands was made in this way: first is established a meridian line running the whole length of the tract to be surveyed; then a base line crossing it at right angles, at or near the widest part of said tract of land, then starting at the crossing of these lines marking the same into townships of six miles square, and numbering them in each direction in regular order from north to south of the base line, and east to west of the meridian. These townships are then divided into sections of one mile square, and the township will consequently contain thirty-six sections, which are numbered from 1 to 36, commencing at the northeast corner of the township. The sections, containing six hundred and forty acres, are divided into quarter-sections of one hundred and sixty acres, which are subdivided again into quarters, containing forty acres each—the smallest tract of land entered at the government offices.

It was very fortunate, or perhaps I should say providential, that the committee met these young men as they did, for they had been looking the surrounding country over for several weeks and were thus able to give the very information desired. Mr. Allen had selected and entered such lands on the wooded banks of Green River near the mouth of a small stream soon to be named Geneseo Creek, and also up that stream to the south some prairie lands of attractive richness contiguous thereto.

At that time, and for some years afterwards, prairie land was the most plentiful thing we had in northern Illinois. Timber lands were not so plentiful. Hence it was the policy of the early settlers to buy the timber knowing they could go to the land office and enter prairie at any time. The committee at once engaged Mr. Seymour with his compass to go with them on their exploring expedition, and Mr. Allen with the characteristic generosity and neighborliness of the true Southern man, volunteered to act as pilot.

Mr. Allen had made his entry of land in Township 17 north, and Range 3, east of the 4th Principal Meridian,⁵ and thus was better prepared by both observation and experience in land hunting in that township to act in that capacity than any other man that could have been found.

I previously mentioned that a Mr. Cady, a substantial farmer from an adjoining town in New York, came with the committee, and on the same errand, but not otherwise interested with them, and was one of the exploring party. He came in the interests of three or four stalwart sons left on his farm in Genesee County, New York, and looking to

⁵The 4th Principal Meridian is a line running due north from the mouth of the Illinois River to the north line of the state from which the townships are numbered both east and west, and is the point of departure in the survey of all the lands lying between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers, commonly known as the "Military Tract."

their prospective settlement in the West, as it was called in those days.

Our exploring party as organized now consisted of Messrs. Cromwell K. Bartlett, John C. Ward, and Roderick R. Stewart, committee of and for the location of the colony, Mr. Cady with them in his own interests, Arba M. Seymour, surveyor, and James M. Allen, pilot. These men made "Brandenburg"⁶ their starting point, that is to say from the first public house, or tavern, opened in Henry County, and situated to the north of Green River upon the high ground about midway between that stream and Rock River where Cleveland is now located; and going directly south across Green River bottoms fording that stream at what is now Green River Station on the C. R. I. & P. Railroad, and continuing still south to the high lands adjacent to that place. They were now ready to turn their faces directly eastward. The party turned at once into a trackless waste of grass and flowers, led by Messrs. Allen and Seymour on horseback, and following in a farm wagon pursued their way unobstructed by anything more formidable than the aforesaid grass and flowers, or perchance the crossing of two or three little "runs" which came down from the table lands on their right, and emptied into Green River on their left. They crossed Township 17 N., Range 2 E.—now Edford—and far enough into Town 17, N., Range 3 E. to reach the stream, now called Geneseo Creek, at a point very near the east line of Section 17 of that township. Our party finding a ford near this point passed over the stream

⁶The capacity of those pioneer houses was something wonderful, if not unexplainable. Here was a cabin, probably not exceeding 18x20 ft. in dimension, in which six stalwart men, four of them as guests, and the other two as regular boarders, besides the elder and younger Brandenburgs, were domiciled and yet the house was not full. There was always room for one more, in fact for all who came. No modern citizen possibly could tell how it could be done. The very few remaining pioneers alone possess the secret.

and up its eastern bank for a distance of about a mile and then came upon a gentle eminence sloping off to the south and west of the stream before mentioned, and upon the north to a little run that found its way into the same, and to the east very gently to the open rolling prairie beyond, from the highest point of which an unobstructed view was obtained of the surrounding country in all directions. But especially to the east and west, as far as the eye could reach, the scene was one of beauty and grandeur impossible to describe, beautiful in all the colors of the rainbow, grand only in its extent. With the novelty and general attractiveness of the scene our committee could not fail to be impressed and pleased. So from this point they at once proceeded to examine the surrounding country, finding prairie lands and flowers, but not one thing that had a name or with which they were familiar in the township except Green River which crossed it from east to west about two miles distant to the north. The whole prospect was beautifully wild. Not a sign of the work of any white man could be found anywhere, except the little mounds at the corners of the sections and quarter-sections made by the surveyors in the original survey of the government lands. But they did find in these sections and quarter-sections the very thing they were seeking—fine, rich, rolling land suitable for the homes of a small agricultural community, which was all that the colony they represented expected at the first, and with ample room and facilities for the unlimited expansion it hoped for in the future.

Our committee then commissioned to find and fix a site for a town set their stake at a point of departure upon the highest part of the eminence before described, and which, by the way, was probably not one hundred feet from where the "Old Seminary Building" was afterwards built, and

about the same distance from the north line of the "Public Square" as they called it at first, but since denominated "The Park." The work of laying out the town could hardly have been done without the services of an expert surveyor, such as was Mr. Arba M. Seymour, who had the government field notes of the township. He was thus able to find the corners of the sections established by the original survey. The committee were also very fortunate in having the advice of Mr. James M. Allen in locating the site for the settlement which they were planning to make, as he had a short time previously visited the government land office at Galena to enter both prairie and timber lands in this same locality for himself. The knowledge of the neighborhood gained by him in his land-hunting expedition on his own account made him a very efficient guide for this exploring party. I need scarcely say that Mr. Allen rendered this service with all the characteristic enthusiasm of the true Southern gentleman.⁷

The committee then being satisfied that they had found the best site in all this region for a town and settlement proceeded at once to Galena where the government land office was located at this time, and entered there somewhat over two thousand acres purchased at the government price of \$1.25 an acre, which they had already surveyed for the use of the colony expected to follow.

The section upon which the town site was fixed was No. 27 with the adjoining sections 28 on the south and section 15 cornering on the first-named section at the east corner of the same, which is the exact center of the township. Section

⁷Mr. Allen could not at this time have been charged with any ulterior motive in offering his generous assistance to the community, as he could not possibly have known that one of them had at his home in New York three daughters—one of whom afterwards became his wife. If Mr. Allen was working at all in his own interests it was also for the good interests of the neighborhood he hoped to see established in the near future.

16, a beautiful tract of land bordering Section 21 on the north, was not subject to entry, because of its being the "school section," so called from having been set apart as in all other townships by the government for the benefit of the public schools contained therein.

These three sections consisted entirely of prairie lands with the exception of the small grove south of the town site before mentioned.

One of the first wants of the pioneer settler was timber for building and other purposes belonging to the farm, hence his first object was to find this commodity within reasonable distance of his homestead. The committee had found this timber on the banks of Green River about two miles north of the spot they had selected for their town, and it was entered with the prairie lands, though in smaller tracts, generally of forty acres, never more than eighty acres, at the same time as the rest chosen by the committee as trustees for the company they were representing.

Having entered their lands they made a survey of the town (as shown by the map) laying it off into blocks twenty-four rods square, each block containing four lots twelve rods square, with intersecting streets ninety-nine feet wide, with the exception of the border alleys surrounding the whole plat which were thirty-three feet in width—the whole covering over eighty acres (accurately 81.4 acres). The blocks were numbered from one to fourteen commencing at the northeast corner of the plat, then reversing the order in the next range, and so on; each block having only four lots, every lot was a corner lot.

While this survey was laid to correspond to the points of the compass, no regard was paid to the junction of the streets and section lines. Had the surveyors carried the

south line of Main Street some seventy-five feet farther south to the central line of the section, the necessity for entering that street at an angle would have been avoided as to the east and west; and if Mechanic Street had been carried to the west about half a block, the same would have been true as to the north and south.⁸

It must be remembered that this description pertains to the original town site occupying perhaps less than one-third of the territory covered by the city of Geneseo at the time of this writing. In accordance with original ideas of the projectors of the colony, the committee set apart Lot 3 in Block 3 for a Manual Labor High School, Lot 4 in the same block for the church and Lot 3 in Block 12 for the Parsonage or "Gospel Lot."⁹

Having thus prepared the town site for the settlement and occupation of the colony, they returned and reported to the proprietors what they had done. In the conference following this report they determined that the proceeds of all sales of lots should be for the support of the projected Manual Labor High School, and also that they would present a lot free to every settler who would build a house upon it. Thus the idea of the school was woven into the organism of the colony from the very first.

We cannot for a moment suppose that while the committee were absent upon their quest the colonists were idle. On the contrary, all these three months they were indus-

⁸Another interesting fact pertaining to this survey is that it occupied some portion of all the four quarters of Section 21 of Township 17 N. and Range 3 E. of the 4th P. M.: about 10.1 acres on the N. E. quarter, 53.2 acres on the N. W. quarter, 15.2 acres on the S. W. quarter, and 2.9 acres on the S. E. Quarter, total 81.4 acres.

⁹In Mr. Roy's memorial address he says the committee set apart a cemetery. But in reality the plot for "God's Acre" was not chosen and decided upon until some two years afterwards. He was also in error in saying that the committee set apart a block, instead of a lot each for the school and the church.

triously preparing for their removal to the new western home.

And we may further suppose that by this time the "western fever" which prevailed lightly with them at the first had now taken a strong hold upon them, and in the enthusiasm engendered by the pulsations of the malady they resolved upon immediate departure. Mr. Roy's description of this departure and the events connected therewith being better than can be given at this late day, the writer will quote freely from his *Memorial Address*.¹⁰

As the Pilgrims came to this New World as an organized church, so our colonists preferred to covenant with God and with one another before going forth; and so, in the Stone Church, on the 13th of September, 1836, they were, by ecclesiastical council, organized a self-governing band of *disciples* to go out and become a church in the wilderness.¹¹ Rev. Messrs. Wilcox, Hull and Bridgman acted in the council. The two Messrs. Cone, C. K. Bartlett, J. C. Ward, and Harry Manville, with their wives and the three children, Mary E. and Amanda E. Bartlett, and Harriet Cone, constituted the church of thirteen members. Elisha Cone and J. C. Ward were chosen and ordained as deacons. A sermon was preached from that beautifully appropriate text: "*He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.*" A solemn address was delivered to the church, and another to the deacons.

Three days later, [correctly, four days] on the 17th of September, five families of the colony—those of the two Cones, the two Bartletts, and R. R. Stewart—

¹⁰Pp. 5-6.

¹¹The Stone Church was two miles south of the Bergen church in which the two Cones and the Bartletts were members. J. C. Ward and Harry Manville only were members of the Stone Church.

numbering forty persons, in their own wagons, entered upon the journey. The families of Mr. Ward and Mr. Manville remained behind, to follow on the next spring. The route of the company was across Canada, Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana, *via* Princeton, Illinois. The journey required *nine weeks*. Near Ypsilanti, Michigan, the roads were so bad that they made only seven mile in six days, their wagon boxes sometimes dipping mud. The stage coach, keeping them company for a time, once upset in their sight, plunging a woman and her child out of sight, while the other passengers, on foot, were literally carrying the mythical rail. In Illinois they report that they got *sloughed* many times. They kept the Sabbath all the way, attending church where they found it, and holding their own worship, along with the read sermon, when they did not find public service. In Canada, while they were attending church, there was a horse race immediately in front of the sanctuary. One of the horses, bolting, threw his rider against a gravestone in the grave-yard, and killed him before their eyes.

From this undesirable neighborhood they hitched up their horses and moved on, the only instance of their traveling on the Sabbath day, but feeling justified in so doing by the unpleasantness of their surroundings. On this day the two Bartletts (being men of push, and, perhaps, having better teams than the others) parted from them, and were not seen again until after they arrived at their destination.

They pushed on and crossing the Detroit River at that place, continued their journey through the southern part of Michigan, then skirting the Lake struck a southwesterly course into the valley of the Illinois River. Arriving at Princeton in Bureau County, a settlement made some five years before by a colony from Massachusetts, about forty miles directly east of the location they were bound for, they

rested for a day. As they from this point pursued a devious way traveling nearly twice that distance to reach their destination, the writer is fortunate in having a description of this part of the journey in the words of one of the travelers given in a correspondence sixty-five years afterwards, whose letter is here inserted verbatim.

Aledo,
July 9, 1901.

MR. A. M. HUBBARD:—

Respected friend,

Yours of the sixth received. The route from Princeton, as I remember it, was by Barren and Red Oak Groves, leaving White Oak on the left, keeping the ridge between Edwards River on the left and Camp Creek on our right till we were about opposite Brandenburg's—a westerly course, then north to Green River ford opposite Brandenburg's. Arrived there at B. about 9 P. M. Nov. 3d, 1836, Friday. Next morning we left for Geneseo Grove piloted by Arba Seymour, County Surveyor. Arrived at the Grove four o'clock Saturday and proceeded at once to erect uncle's tent and slept the first night at what we thought our home after nine weeks travel. Now about the log house building. Let me digress a little. Arrangements had been made by the purchasing committee in the spring for the building of three log cabins, the breaking of 160 acres of prairie, and putting up of 30 tons of hay. The men who were to do this were taken with the fever and ague in June, and were still shaking when we arrived, consequently no cabins, hay, or breaking were in sight. On Monday morning all hands that could swing an axe started for Geneseo Grove by daylight. William, Hiram, Father, and I did the chopping. George Bartlett hauled the logs to the spot, and by Tuesday or Wednesday we had the

logs on the spot and two houses raised as high as we could raise them with the help at our command.¹²

The next thing was to invite hands to complete the cabins. Father started west and William east and took in the settlers from Gordon's on to Brandenburg's on the west, nine persons in all; and the next morning they started at four o'clock and were on the ground by, or before 9 A. M. And by 4 P. M. two log cabins stood one on the east side of Geneseo Creek and one on the west. The work of shingling and daubing was next in order, and on the 19th of November they were ready for occupancy.

As all our supplies were to be purchased forty miles away, and hauled, our progress was slow in completing them. I think when you see this you will conclude that I am not as young as I was once. If I see the 12th of November I will be 80 years old. I would like very much to see you and talk over old times. We are living in Aledo. If you were to visit Aledo, please give me a call.

Yours truly,

EDWIN C. BARTLETT.

Post Office Box 155. Aledo, Illinois.

¹²The question may arise in the mind of the reader why the Bartletts built their log cabins in this locality instead of upon the town site. The answer is that almost exactly upon this spot they found material for the building of these cabins. On the east bank of the creek and upon the sloping side of a considerable hill grew a cluster of yellow and white oak trees of a size remarkably fitted for their purpose. These trees were from ten to twelve inches in diameter, and were of sufficient height to furnish two pieces, or logs, of the required length. And growing so close at hand, the difficulty of removing them was much less as it was not required to load them upon wagons. They were hauled to the spot by a process called "snaking," *i.e.*, by hooking a log chain around them and hauling them over the ground to the place where they were wanted. Also this fact may account for the surprisingly short time required to build these log cabins. Mr. Bartlett says in his letter that they (the Bartletts) arrived about four o'clock on Saturday, and rested over Sunday and taking their axes early Monday morning they went into this grove, and by Wednesday they had the logs on the spot all prepared for the buildings.

As the following letter is explanatory of the preceding one and also mentions some things it will be necessary to refer to hereafter, it is given here in full.

Aledo,

July 13th, 1901.

MR. A. M. HUBBARD:—

Desr Sir:

Yours of the 11th received. Five families started together for the west, and travelled together for some time, but finding it inconvenient decided to separate; and Uncle Cromwell and Father left the two Cones and Stewart somewhere in Canada, and we saw no more of them till the two cabins were built.

Mrs. Harriet Miller can give more information concerning them than I can. Uncle's family consisted of Uncle and Aunt, three boys, and four girls. William, Hiram, and George, Mary, Amanda, Julia, and Lucinda. Father and I, with Uncle's family arrived at Geneseo Grove on November 4th, as I wrote you. The balance of the family we left at Brandenburg sick.

William, Hiram, Father and I took the axes and cut the logs, and Uncle and George with each a team hauled them—and not Uncle George. After the Bartlett cabins were built the men of the two Cone and Stewart families and Narcissa Stewart were with the Bartletts until their cabins were built in Geneseo.

Yours,

E. C. BARTLETT.

Having conducted the Bartlett families in our story to the end of their journey and settled them in their two log cabins, let us now return to Michigan where we left the

two Cone and Stewart families. From this point where the Bartletts left them they continued by very nearly the same route, crossing the Detroit River at Detroit, through southern Michigan to Chicago (see further), then struck off to the southwest into the valley of the Illinois River. Passing by the spot where the city of Ottawa now stands they arrived at Princeton on a date which we cannot now accurately give but some two weeks behind the Bartletts.

In the vicinity of Princeton they rented a log cabin built by a young man by the name of Rufus Carey and his brother, both young men without families. After resting and recuperating for a few days the men of the remaining three families — namely, Elisha Cone, Reuben Cone, Roderick R. Stewart, and his son Elisha M. and daughter Narcissa, who was to act as cook—departed, taking their course direct to their objective point, fording Mud Creek, which they found well deserves its name, and Spring Creek, both difficult streams to cross. They arrived at the Bartletts' in whose cabins they found shelter until their own houses were built upon the town site.

It must be remembered in considering the difficulties of this journey that not a bridge nor a ferry crossed any of the streams or swamps along the way. The reader of the present day can have but a faint idea of what a slough was at that time. It consisted of mud covered with grass or sod between two springy banks that kept its uncertain depth and shallows constantly fed, but there was no current or flow of water. The grass was so rank and long in these sloughs that wagons could pass over them on top of the flattened growth with more or less safety. Sometimes a wheel would sink through or the horses' feet would penetrate the grass forming the natural bridge, and when this occurred further effort was useless because they sunk down to their bodies

and were unable to extricate themselves until detached from the wagon. Now when this was done the horses were brought to solid ground, and a long chain would then be attached to the wagon tongue, and it was hauled out. The horses became educated to this movement and seemed to understand it as well as their drivers and calmly coöperated with them in relieving the situation.

We have now arrived at a point in our story with the men of the families sojourning in the newly erected cabins of the Bartletts, not upon the town site, but in what Mr. Edwin Bartlett calls in his letter, "Geneseo Grove," half a mile distant. But as nothing in the vicinity had a name, this name could only be used in anticipation of its designation in the future. The first structure erected upon the town site was built upon Lot 2, Block 12, by and for Mr. Elisha Cone, the second upon Lot 4, Block 7, by his brother Reuben Cone, the third on Lot 2, Block 11, by Roderick R. Stewart, in succession and in the order named. As soon as the first-named cabin was finished enough to be occupied, Elisha, Stewart and Reuben Cone went back to Princeton with ox teams and brought the remainder of the colonists' families—arriving in Geneseo January 28th, 1837—and the two Cone families and the Stewart family, nineteen members in all, occupied this cabin until the Reuben Cone cabin was finished, then later the Stewart cabin. Their route from Princeton was across trackless snow, and in crossing Spring Creek they were obliged to go to nearby its mouth, making a detour which made them late in reaching their destination. It must be understood that all parties worked together like brothers in the building of these houses. In a large sense the interest of one was the interest of all as they were working together for the benefit of the whole colony. They completed the first building, making it after dark.

Narcissa Stewart became anxious over the delay, so climbed to the roof of the cabin and waved fire brands, and these were a beacon light which showed the way to the tired travelers. And this last was not completed and ready for occupancy until late in the winter. Nearly the whole winter was taken up in getting the five families settled in their respective cabins, three of which were upon the town site. It must further be understood that while the survey of the town site was made according to law, it had at this time no legal name but was certified to by the surveyor A. M. Seymour on the thirteenth of December, 1837, and acknowledged and recorded on the twelfth day of July, 1838, by William H. Hubbard, J. P. Thus the town site came to have a legal name, and not only a legal but a beautiful name in both its setting and definition, Geneseo (Pleasant Valley), Illinois (Manly Men) — harmonious Indian sounds and meanings truly appropriate to the place and people who founded the new settlement on the Illinois prairie.

II

Early in the spring of 1837 came Rufus Hubbard and William H. Hubbard and built the fourth house on Lot 1, Block 13, of the original town of Geneseo, being the first accession to the membership of the colony.

In this connection it may be well to say that the rule and practice of the colony was to give a lot in fee simple to any reputable person who would build a house upon it within a year—no liquors being sold upon the premises. Mr. Hubbard came in under this rule, and had all the privileges and advantages of the original members of the colony. As the Hubbard house differed in construction from the cabins we will describe it more fully. It was made of

logs hewn upon two sides and erected after the same manner as the primitive log cabins and painted up with lime mortar instead of being daubed with clay. The corners were so perfectly fitted that it could be and was afterwards covered with siding after the manner of a frame building. The windows were made with sash holding 8x10 glass. The floor was made with puncheons hewn into a semblance of plank, carefully hewn and smoothed so there was no difficulty in keeping it clean. The building was made a story and a half high so that an upper floor was required. This floor was made of the bark peeled from the logs before they were hewed, the bark being cut in sections from four to six feet long, and laid on the joists the rough side up. This being smoothed off as much as possible with an adze, answered all the purposes of a floor for the time being, and could be easily replaced when they could get sawed lumber to make a better one.

The house had a good roof made of shaved oak shingles. This together with the lean-to upon one end made what was considered a very comfortable dwelling. At the first, in place of a chimney, stove pipes were run out through the roof at its ridge. As the two families of Hubbards were home at this time in Adams County near Quincy and did not intend to occupy the house which they had built until the coming fall this house was now ready to receive two more members of the colony, *viz.*, John C Ward and Harry Manville families, twelve persons in all, who were expected to come in the first days of June, 1837. Both families occupied the house for the season, during which time Mr. Ward built the first frame house erected in the town, on Lot 3, Block 8, on the east side of the Public Square. When this house was completed in the fall both the Ward and Manville families moved into it, leaving the Hubbard

house ready for occupancy by the owners who were expected to come and did come early in the fall of that year. To go back a little it may be said that during the occupancy of the Hubbard house by the Wards and Manvilles in the latter part of July, William H. Hubbard and Anson M. Hubbard made a journey from Adams County to the new town and put up twenty tons of prairie hay that was cut upon the eastern end of the town site, and also built a temporary stable for use when the families should move up in the fall.

About the first week in October they arrived and took possession of their own home. Late in July of 1837 came Doctor Enos Pomeroy, and under the rule of the colony selected Lot 2, on Block 3, and made arrangements to build thereon. But as he wanted a better house than any hitherto built, and had to bring his material and lumber from a distance, it was not completed until the next season.

During the progress of these events it may be well to return and note a few things in the simple life of the settlers. The plan of the colony from the beginning had been to have some form of public worship on the Sabbath day. This form, of course, varied somewhat according to circumstances and inconveniences. But the center and core of these services was the sermon read by one of their number. These services were of necessity held in the cabins of the people as they were built. But in June of that first summer they erected on the square a structure that by no stretch of the imagination could be called a building but answered the purposes for their first school and place of worship for the time being. Of this Mr. Roy says: "The first place of this kind was erected in July of 1837 upon the Public Square. It was eighteen feet square, built of poles laid up three feet high, with crotches set up in the corners, to sus-

tain the poles, over which, for a roof, were stretched their several wagon covers." Mr. Roy further says: "Basswood puncheon served as flooring and seats." This last statement is true of the seats, but not true as to the flooring, as there was no floor required but the bare prairie with its grass sod for a carpet. There were neither floor nor window in the structure but plenty of light came in on all sides between the poles of the pen and the canvas roof. As will be seen this was a pleasant weather building for when it rained the scholars or the worshipers were compelled to seek shelter in the cabins.

The first school taught by Miss Susannah Stewart, was held in this structure, but only until the completion of Mr. J. C. Ward's dwelling after which Mr. Ward's house was used for religious services. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Ithamar Pillsbury of the Andover Colony which settled at White Oak Grove at the same time as the Geneseo Colony. A communion service was conducted by him at the same time. In May of 1837 Rev. Kent of Galena came and remained over Sunday, and while there, at Mr. Stewart's cabin, his wife and son Elisha and daughters Narcissa, Susannah and Permelia united with the church—which was their intention to do in Bergen with the others, but a storm prevented their being present.

It has often been said that this school house was built upon the Public Square, and afterwards removed to the church lot. But neither of these statements are true. This error probably came from confounding the first structure on the Public Square with the building which was placed over the church lot in 1838. As stated before the building was placed upon the church lot, being Number 4 of Block 3 where it remained in use for school and church purposes until the year 1848 when the seminary building was com-

pleted and thereafter occupied for the same purposes. And I may remark casually that these services were held in the seminary building until the 28th of May, 1856, when the present commodious church was erected (or completed).

The season of 1837 was an exceedingly busy one as the winter had been spent in preparing houses for occupancy. So the next summer all efforts were directed toward getting ready for the future cultivation of the soil, which was the intended occupation of the colony. Up to this time not a sod had been turned except that the Bartletts had removed it from a small piece of ground and planted the first garden. In the month of May when the Hubbards came they also broke up with a plow a small patch of ground in a bend of the creek, which only required thirty feet of fencing to enclose it. The idea prevailed that unless the ground was fenced in no crop could be raised. Hence this first season was almost entirely taken up in fencing their town lots and making improvements about their cabins. Consequently they had little or no time for breaking the prairie or raising crops other than the two small garden patches mentioned above. The first ploughed field planted to grain was by Elisha Cone, and is now at the foot of the slight hill and between State Street and Oakwood Avenue. Notwithstanding these facts, the county history and other publications emphasize the low prices for grain and other produce as being the reason for the slow progress made at first by the colony. But the colony had nothing to sell; on the contrary, they had everything to buy, wherefore the low prices for these commodities would be to their advantage. As they had forty miles or more to go for their supplies the journey was not made very often. They lived on simple fare, principally corn bread and bacon with wild game, and for extra occasions when guests were at the board wheat bread,

and "chicken fixins" supplemented in their season by wild plums and crabapples.

In the case of our colony there was no meat to be had at hand except the occasional wild game that they might shoot. But these people were not hunters nor trappers so the supply from this source was small. And this leads me to an incident that occurred the first year of the settlement.

Early in the month of January of this year, 1837, they had discovered a mother swine with some six or eight shoats, and as there were no inhabitants nearer than three miles, the find was supposed to belong to a race of prairie rooters or wild hogs, and having ascertained that the animals did not belong to the Gordon family, their only neighbors some miles up the creek, the finders took it for granted that Providence had smiled upon them and given them meat, instead of quail as in the case of the Israelites of old. So in due time they absorbed the whole family, but the final result of this was not so pleasant. After a couple of years there appeared a claimant for the vanished property from 'way off in another direction. Not being convinced of the righteousness of his claim the consumers refused the price demanded, whereupon the owner brought suit against them in the county court. And when his neighbor, a good old Methodist exhorter, being a witness in the case identified the mother swine as being the property of the plaintiff by answering that "she had a large big black spot on the left side" the judgment was rendered against our friends and they had to pay.

As the season of 1837 was the first that the first members of the colony spent together in the new settlement it may be well at this juncture to take a census of the population which we will proceed to do by families.

Cromwell K. Bartlett and wife.

Children (seven)

William, Hiram, George

Mary, Amanda, Julia and Lucinda.

William C. Bartlett and wife.

Children (six)

Edwin C., Angeline, Orrin

(Three more living, names not remembered.)

Elisha Cone and wife.

Children (four)

Harriet, Clara, Frank and Ellen.

Reuben Cone and wife.

Children (two)

Alonzo and Alfred.

Roderick R. Stewart and wife.

Children (seven)

Elisha M., Narcissa, Susannah D.,

Permelia, LaFayette, Josiah and George.

John C. Ward and wife.

(Adopted children—two)

Henry and Emily.

Harry Manville and wife.

Children (six)

Orto, Roderick, Celia, Freeland,

Mahlon, and Richard.

The seven families of the colony proper numbered forty-five persons, and with the family of Hubbard here given, fifty-four in all.

Rufus Hubbard and wife.

Children (five) counting Mr. W. H. six

William H. and wife, Anson M.

Maria (now Mrs. Dimock of Moline)

Cornelius Allen (now in Los Angeles, California)
and Cornelia Ellen (now of Moline) twins.

As a matter of interest to the colony at this juncture we may return and say that in the winter of 1836-1837 Mr. James M. Allen went to Vandalia, at that time the capital of the state, and secured the separation of Henry from Knox County to which it had been previously attached for judicial purposes.

The first election for county officers was held on the 19th day of June of that year, 1837, at which only thirty-seven votes were cast, including as it did the very sparse population of the county.

As to the change of ideas in regard to elections between that day and this, the county commissioners were at that time the highest officers of the county.

It is said that one of the three candidates had he voted for himself would have been elected, but voting for his opponent he failed of his own election. In the excitement of our modern electioneering methods, such a thing could hardly occur. Geneseo men elected as county officers at this time were R. R. Stewart to the office of coroner, and William H. Hubbard to the office of justice of the peace.

Now that we have placed the seven families of the colony with the additional one last mentioned, making eight families in all, and have followed them in their labors through the summer and their political election, the question may naturally arise how these more than half a hundred people

should find ways and means for recreation and amusement during the long winter months approaching. In answer we may say that in a large sense their duties were their pleasures but they were not confined entirely to this for their enjoyment. In addition to their social life which grew out of their position as one great family, it is pleasant to remember and to record that there were many proficient musicians and singers among them. In their little family gatherings there was never lack of something to do in the use of both old and new music. Music was, of course, a large feature in their religious and public meetings. Another thing worth noting, and which contributed to the enjoyment of the people, was the fact that small as the settlement was it attracted visitors of like tastes from among our neighbors in surrounding settlements. Here it may be well to explain that simultaneously with the settlement of Geneseo was planted the Andover Colony fifteen miles to the south, the Wethersfield Colony twenty miles to the southeast, the three places making nearly a right triangle in the center of the county at the distances named.

Even at these distances, which were not large between neighbors in those days, we drew visitors and friends who were glad to enjoy with us our social gatherings.

There were also two or three isolated families nearer at hand, namely, the Gordon family, who had settled on Green River (about four miles from Geneseo to the northeast in November, 1835, near the mouth of Spring Creek, which empties into Green River). Also the two families of Taylor, brothers, who had settled upon that stream some three miles south of the Gordons, and about four miles from Geneseo. These three pioneer families were naturally drawn into our settlement for social and educational advantages.

The companionship of kindred souls and the diversions afforded them in the congenial society of their nearest neighbors were most welcome to themselves and a great addition to the social intercourse and pleasurable gatherings of the community.

Besides the families above mentioned two brothers named Stimson had settled about two miles below the Gordon family on Green River and about two miles from Geneseo, but as one of them was an incorrigibly single man they were not as valuable in a social way as they might otherwise have been. . . .

Thus passed the first winter of the little community but as the spring approached they were engaged in preparations for the work of the opening season. All were farmers but two — the two Cones being shoemakers — and all were looking forward toward cultivating the soil as a further means of livelihood. Hence the first step was in fencing the land and “breaking the prairie” — only another name for turning over the sod, which had to be done before any crop could be produced.

As the reader of the present day probably knows little of this process, we will explain it. A wheel plow known as a “prairie breaker” was constructed of a share made of steel plate from sixteen to twenty inches wide and necessarily sharp with a coulter connected with its point, the first to cut the sod from the earth, and the latter to cut it laterally into strips, the mould board to turn over the sod and with wheels attached to the beam to hold it level. It was drawn by a train of from three to five yoke of oxen with a man on the left hand armed with a whip, and this constituted what was called “breaking team.” No man was required to hold the plow. All that was necessary was to get it to place and

then drive on. If the plow was properly adjusted in all its parts after the share was firmly in the ground, it would cut a furrow from one side of the field to the other the full width of the share.

In the second furrow the strip of sod was turned grass side down over into the first and presented a line true as a ribbon stretched across the entire field. This breaking was done mostly in the months of June and July as experience taught them it was the best time. Three or four grains of corn were dropped by a boy following the team in each alternate furrow and the writer has known as many as thirty to forty bushels to the acre produced by this method without any further cultivation, the corn growing up between the sods, fed by the rotting grass below. Another method of planting what was called sod corn was after the breaking was completed to strike an axe into the sod, drop the corn in the gash, step on it, to cover the seed, and that was all the work required to produce the crop aforesaid.

HISTORICAL NOTE

CORRECTION

The Illinois State Historical Society,
Springfield, Illinois.

Dear Sirs:

In your issue for April, 1936, page 76, the statement is made that James McGrady Rutledge was descended from Edward Rutledge, who signed the Declaration of Independence. This is most positively an error. In the *South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine* for January and April, 1930, Vol. 31, pages 7-25, 93-106, is to be found an account of Dr. John Rutledge and his descendants, and there you will see that James McGrady Rutledge could not have been a descendant of Edward Rutledge, or of any of his family.

We have many Rutledge correspondents in various parts of the country, all of whom claim descent from the signer or his father. Rutledge was not an unusual Irish name and there are many of the name to be found in various parts of the country, and who came here quite early, some of them even earlier than the family of the signer.

Yours very truly,

MABEL L. WEBBER.

SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
Charleston, South Carolina.

The article to which reference is made—"Dr. John Rutledge and his Descendants," by Mabel L. Webber—shows

the impossibility of any close connection between James Rutledge, father of Ann Rutledge, and Edward Rutledge, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Edward Rutledge was born in 1749. On March 1, 1774 he married Henrietta Middleton, by whom he had three children. Only the oldest of these three—Henry Middleton—had issue, but since he was not born until 1775, and since James Rutledge was born in 1781, it is obvious that the one was not a descendant of the other. Upon the death of his first wife in 1792 Edward Rutledge married again, but there were no children from the second marriage. None of the brothers of Edward Rutledge had a son or grandson who could have been the James Rutledge in question.

EDITOR

HISTORICAL NEWS

Illinois Day — December 3rd — was the occasion for a meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society at the Centennial Building in Springfield. After an invocation by the Rt. Rev. John Chanler White, Governor Horner spoke in appreciation of Dr. Otto L. Schmidt, president of the Society until his death in August, 1935. A portrait of Dr. Schmidt by John Doctoroff, commissioned jointly by Mrs. Otto L. Schmidt and the Trustees of the Illinois State Historical Library, was then unveiled by William Otto Petersen, a grandson of Dr. Schmidt. After the unveiling, Joseph Schafer, Superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, spoke on the subject, "Was the Frontier a Safety Valve for Labor?" Dr. James A. James of Evanston, president of the Society, presided at the meeting.

At the conclusion of the meeting a reception was held in the Illinois State Historical Library.

The last regular meeting of the McLean County Historical Society was held in the McBarnes Building, Bloomington, on December 5, 1936. A good attendance marked the meeting and the luncheon which preceded it. After the customary business, Paul M. Angle spoke on the subject, "The Story of the Maps," demonstrating several phases of Illinois history from a series of maps from 1632 to the present.

Governor Henry Horner, Dr. Mario Carosi, Royal Italian Consul General at Chicago, Logan Hay, Chairman of the Lincoln Memorial Commission, Bishops James A.

Griffin and John Chanler White and other outstanding leaders participated in colorful ceremonies at the Lincoln Tomb on Sunday, October 11, 1936. The occasion was the unveiling of the Servius Tullius stone. This stone, taken from the Roman wall supposed to have been erected twenty-five centuries ago by Servius Tullius, was sent to the President of the United States in 1865 by citizens of Rome who wished to express their sympathy with the ideals of democracy and national unity which Abraham Lincoln represented. In 1870 it was placed in the Lincoln Monument by joint resolution of Congress, and remained there until the monument was rebuilt in 1931. In October, 1936, Governor Horner ordered that it be permanently placed in the monument, and on October 11 it was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies under the auspices of the Lincoln Memorial Commission. Two thousand people from all parts of the state were in attendance, and messages were received from many persons of national and international prominence, including President Roosevelt, Mayor Fiorella La Guardia, Frank L. Belgrano, Augusto Rossi and Guglielmo Marconi.

An impressive monument honoring the great Chief Pontiac and commemorating the founders of the city of the same name was dedicated at Pontiac on October 9, 1936. Dr. John H. Ryan, president of the Livingston County Historical Society, presided and spoke in appreciation of Pontiac, the first settlers, and Jesse W. Fell of Normal, who named both town and county. Addresses were made by Paul M. Angle and F. Lynden Smith, Director, Department of Public Works and Buildings. After the program the monument, located in the court house yard, was

unveiled with brief ceremonies presided over by Mayor Fred Hierth.

On October 13th, the seventy-eight anniversary of the debate between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas at Quincy, a memorial plaque was unveiled and dedicated on the site of the original debate. The program included addresses by Governor Henry Horner, Mayor Leo Lenane, Representative Thomas J. Lenane, Lorado Taft, Louis A. Warren, Harry E. Pratt and Rodney Brandon.

The monument, erected in Quincy's Washington Park, was proposed by the Quincy Exchange Club more than a year and a half ago. A citizens' committee was appointed to raise funds. The State of Illinois appropriated \$10,000, and Lorado Taft was commissioned to execute the monument.

The memorial plaque is a bas relief depicting Lincoln speaking, Douglas seated in deep study, and a number of auditors on the platform. On the reverse are quotations from the addresses of both Lincoln and Douglas.

On October 20, 1936, Mrs. L. A. Jarman of Rushville placed a small bronze plaque on her residence to commemorate the last visit of Abraham Lincoln to Rushville. The plaque reads: "Abraham Lincoln addressed the people of Rushville, Oct. 20th, 1858, while a guest of Hon. William H. Ray at his home." Mrs. Jarman occupies the Ray home at which Lincoln stayed. From the Ray home Lincoln made a short impromptu address to a crowd which gathered there in advance of the time for his formal speech.

The dedication, on October 13, 1936, of the gateway of Fort de Chartres marks another step in the restoration of

the historic structure in which French rule of the Illinois Country centered for nearly half a century. Ceremonies were under the auspices of the National Society, Daughters of American Colonists, whose subscription made possible the restoration.

After an address of welcome by Mrs. Joseph S. Calfee, the Society's National President, short addresses were made by Francois Alabrune, French Vice-Consul at Chicago, Thomas J. O'Conner and Paul M. Angle. On behalf of the State of Illinois responses were made by George H. Luker, Superintendent of Parks, and Charles P. Casey, Acting Director, Department of Public Works and Buildings.

The first Fort de Chartres was a log structure built in 1720. The last was a magnificent stone fortification constructed between the years of 1753 and 1756. This is the fort which the State of Illinois has restored in part and intends ultimately to restore completely. The original fort remained in the hands of the French until 1765, when it was handed over to the British in accordance with the Treaty of Paris. In 1772 the British abandoned it because of the encroachments of the Mississippi River. Gradually it fell into ruins, and when its site was acquired as a state park, only the powder magazine and the foundations of the walls remained.

Belleville Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, unveiled two markers in the fall of 1936. The first tablet, unveiled on October 18, commemorates the speech which Abraham Lincoln made in Belleville on October 18, 1856. It reads as follows: "Abraham Lincoln was a guest at the John Scheel home on this site and spoke from its balcony to the citizens of Belleville on October 18, 1856." The

John Scheel home stood where the Belleville Junior High School is now located. Mrs. James Twitchell, regent of the chapter, presided at the ceremonies; Mrs. Walter Ackerman, historian, unveiled the marker; and P. K. Johnson delivered the address of the occasion.

On November 1 the Belleville Chapter marked the graves of John and Anne Lyon Messenger, southern Illinois pioneers. Many descendants of John Messenger were in attendance, and heard Representative Calvin D. Johnson pay tribute to the Messengers.

John Messenger, who settled in Illinois in 1802, when he was thirty-one years old, made the first survey of much of St. Clair and Randolph counties, and at a later date assisted in establishing the northern boundary of Illinois. He served in the Indiana territorial legislature (before the creation of Illinois Territory), in the Illinois Constitutional Convention of 1818, and in the first state legislature. He was a notable figure in early nineteenth century Illinois.

The Illinois Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, made their seventh division meeting, held at Carmi on October 13, 1936, the occasion for dedicating two historical markers. One marker, placed by the Wabash Chapter, commemorates the services of thirty-five Revolutionary soldiers buried in White County; the other, in Marion churchyard ten mile north of Albion, marks the grave of Martha Cabot Blood, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier. On both occasions Mrs. John G. Powell, regent of Wabash Chapter, presided.

On October 14 state officers of the Daughters of the American Revolution and many of those who had participated in the division meeting attended ceremonies at Lawrenceville marking the laying of the cornerstone of the

Lincoln monument which the Illinois Society is erecting at the west end of the George Rogers Clark Memorial Bridge.

The reputed burial place of Senachewine, last of the principal Indian chiefs to live in the vicinity of Peoria lake, will be marked with a memorial plaque to be erected by George Rogers Clark Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, Peoria. June 13, 1937, has been set as the date. According to tradition, Senachewine was buried a short distance north of Putnam, near the lake which bears his name.

Virginia, county seat of Cass County, celebrated its centennial on October 6, 7 and 8, 1936. Races, contests, a huge parade, a pageant with a cast of more than 200, and a notable display of pioneer implements and furnishings drew large crowds from all over the country.

The town of Danvers, McLean County, made its annual Fall Festival the occasion for a centennial celebration also. The observances, held on October 16 and 17, 1936, included a parade featuring the history of the community, and a centennial pageant.

As a result of the centennial celebration held earlier in the year, seventy-five people met in the Riverside Public Library on November 20, 1936 and organized the Riverside Historical Society. A constitution and by-laws were adopted, and Dr. S. S. Fuller was elected President.

On November 17, 1936, the Canton *Daily Ledger* issued an 88-page "Progress and Achievement" edition. Believing that "history is better told by hundreds of stories of to-

day's accomplishments than it is by an elongated article filled with data of yesterday," the editors have emphasized the outstanding features of Canton and Fulton County today, but in many cases they have drawn contrasts with the past, so that the edition stands as a valuable historical document.

The *Canton Daily Ledger* is the lineal descendant of the *Canton Register*, founded in 1849, and the *Fulton Ledger*, founded at Lewistown under the name, *Illinois Public Ledger*, in 1854. In order to insure their preservation, the publisher of the *Canton Daily Ledger* deposited long files of both parent newspapers in the Illinois State Historical Library a number of years ago.

On October 1, 1936, the Abraham Lincoln Association, of Springfield, announced the appointment of Dr. Harry E. Pratt as Executive Secretary, to succeed Dr. Benjamin P. Thomas, who resigned to enter business in Springfield. Dr. Thomas had served in this position since 1932, and as the Association's official representative had published a number of papers dealing with various phases of Lincoln's life, and two excellent books: *Lincoln's New Salem*, and *Lincoln: 1847-1853*. Prior to his appointment as Executive Secretary, Dr. Pratt had served as Dean of Blackburn College and Assistant Professor of History at Illinois Wesleyan University. He is widely known for his Lincoln researches, and has published a number of papers in the Society's publications.

CONTRIBUTORS

Henry Horner needs no introduction to the people of Illinois. . . . Herbert A. Kellar is Director of the McCormick Historical Association, Chicago. Years of experience in historical work enable him to speak with unusual authority on the opportunities which local historical societies enjoy. . . . The sketch of Joseph W. Rickert presented here is the first published work of Miss Ann Steinbrecher, of Chicago. Obviously, it is not her last. . . . Miss Jessie M. Dillon is a daughter of Isaiah Dillon, a member of the firm of E. Dillon & Co., breeders of Norman horses. Since 1900 she has been a member of the faculty of the Illinois State Normal University. She writes: "Throughout the years of my life I have been in close touch with and have had a personal knowledge of the activities of the family in the Norman, later called Percheron, horse business. My personal knowledge has been supplemented by my father and my brothers as they have related incidents, experiences, and facts concerning the business. Furthermore the records and writings which have been preserved in our home aid in recalling the facts and in writing the story". . . . Anson Hubbard died years ago. The manuscript from which his account of the founding of Geneseo was taken was written in 1908, and is now in the possession of Mrs. James H. White of Geneseo.

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